Number.2

ON YOUR MARKS

PRESENTED BY
DAISUKE HIGUCHI

*THIS STORY IS IN NO WAY RELATED TO ANY EXISTING PERSON, STORY, OR ORGANIZATION.

CHARACTERS

KATSURŌ SHIBUSAWA

涉澤克郎

MUSASHINOMORI GAKUEN SOCCER CLUB'S WELL-KNOWN GOALKEEPER.

SEIJI FUJISHIRO

藤代誠二

MUSASHINOMORI GAKUEN SOCCER CLUB'S KEY PLAYER.

SHIGEKI SATŌ

佐藤茂樹

SAKURAJOSUI SOCCER CLUB'S LAST-MINUTE GOALKEEPER.

SHŌ KAZAMATATSURI

風祭 將

● SAKURAJOSUI SOCCER CLUB'S STRIKER.

風祭 功 **KŌ KAZAMATSURI**

YŪKO KATORI **香取夕子**

TATSUYA MIZUNO

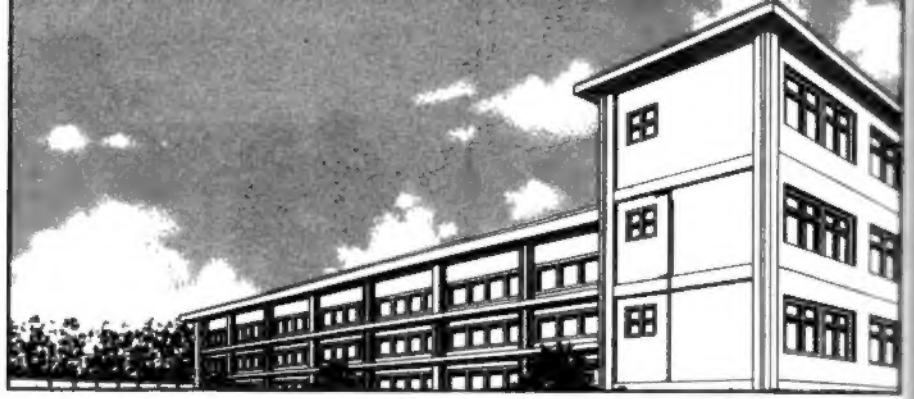
水野龍也

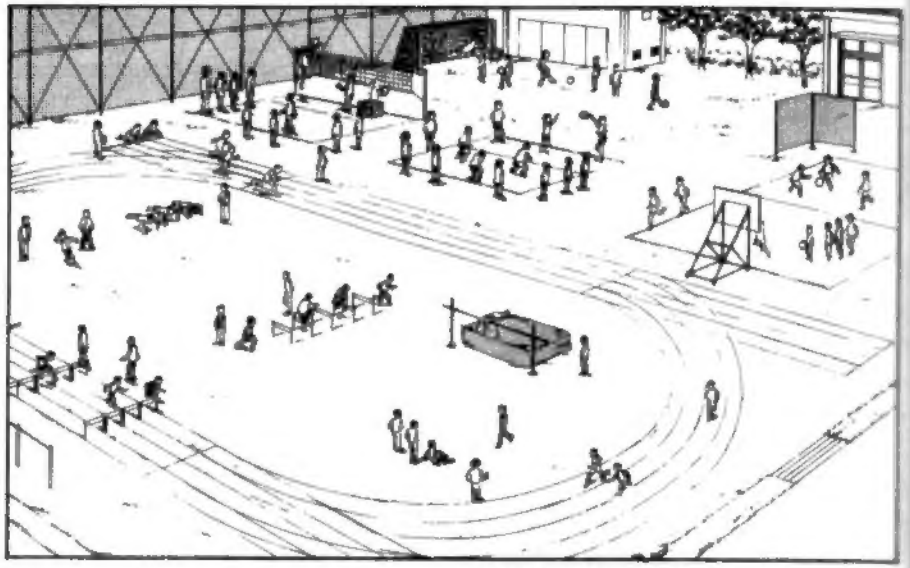
● SAKURAJOSUI SOCCER CLUB'S MIDFIELDER.

STORY

HE'LL NEVER GIVE UP HIS DREAM! KAZAMATSURI SHO IS A THIRD-STRINGER IN THE FAMOUS SOC-CER SCHOOL MUSASHINOMORI, BUT HE TRANSFERS TO SAKURAJOSUI BECAUSE HE IS DETERMINED TO REALLY PLAY SOCCER.

ON THE VERY FIRST DAY AT SAKURAJOSUI, HE GAINED A NOTORIOUS REPUTATION, SO HE STARTED TO GIVE HIMSELF SPECIAL SOLO TRAINING. AT THE SAME TIME, MIZUNO, WHO FELT DEEP DISSATIS-FACTION WITH THE METHODS OF THE SOCCER CLUB, PROVOKED A CONFRONTATION. IN A BATTLE BE-TWEEN THE SENIORS AND THE JUNIORS, THE JUN-IORS WON, AND THUS THE SOCCER CLUB CAME UNDER THE INFLUENCE OF MIZUNO AND SHO. HOW-EVER, SINCE THE SENIORS LEFT, THE NUMBER OF CLUB MEMBERS HAS FALLEN TO SEVEN...!





STAGE.8 THE TASTE OF ODEN

WHISTLE!

Number.2

ON YOUR MARKS

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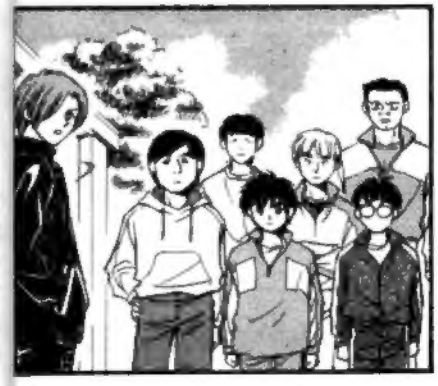
ODEN IS A JAPANESE DISH WITH MANY INGREDIENTS STEWED IN A SOY SAUCE BROTH

JIRO IS A HARD LOOK, STARE.

DOES MIZUNO INTEND TO GIVE UP ON THE UPCOMING TOURNAMENT, AND CONCENTRATE ON THE ONE IN AUTUMN INSTEAD?
ARE WE STILL DOING BASIC PHYSICAL TRAINING?

AND NOW THAT THE MINI-GAME IS OVER, HE HAS RETURNED TO THE CLUB.
BUT THE RESULT IS THAT THE SOCCER CLUB HAS BROKEN APART...AND THERE ARE TOO FEW MEMBERS ...



DA
DA
DA
DA
PI!
PI!
DA
DA
DA
PI!
!
DA
DA
LOOK... SOMEONE'S ALREADY FALLEN BEHIND ...
IT LOOKS EASY, BUT IT'S ACTUALLY REALLY TIRING.
THERE THEY GO.
POOR ODA... SINCE A FRIEND ASKED, HE DIDN'T HAVE A CHOICE BUT TO HELP OUT WITH TRAINING THOSE LOSERS ...

AND RE-PEAT.
ON THE SECOND WHISTLE, RETURN TO JOGGING.
AND WHEN I BLOW THE WHISTLE WE'LL START TO SPRINT.
WE'LL START OFF JOGGING.
TO IMPROVE ENDURANCE AS WELL AS THE ABILITY TO DASH AT A MOMENT'S NOTICE, I'VE SPECIALLY COMBINED RUNNING WITH SPRINTING PRACTICES.
START!
LET'S BEGIN WITH 20 LAPS AROUND THE FIELD.
DA
PI!

PITA MEANS HE'S CLOSE BEHIND.
HA HA HA IS PANTING
!
PITA
ぴた
HA
HA
HA
DA
ダッ
DA
GYAN
きゃん
GYAN IS A FAST MOTION
BLOW THE WHISTLE ALREADY! AREN'T YOU GONNA BLOW IT YET?
DA
ダッ
DA
ダッ
DA
CAN THE SOCCER CLUB'S MEMBERS REALLY KEEP UP WITH ODA, ALL THE WAY?
STILL HALF LEFT?
ZEE
KURA IS DIZZINESS
TEN MORE LAPS.
NIYA
TA
タッ
NIYA IS A SMIRK
ほ
HO
PI
ピ
TA
タッ
PI!
HO IS A RELIEVED BREATH, LIKE PHEW.
THIS KID ...
ZEE
エ
HAA
ハァ
ZEE
エ
CHIRA
チラ
ZA
!
CHIRA
チラ
WAS IT TOO MUCH TO START THEM OFF WITH 20 LAPS?
CHIRA IS A GLANCE
SU
スッ
I CAN'T TAKE IT ANYMORE ...
PI!
DA
ダッ

DO O
WHAT A PITY! HE HAD ALMOST MADE THE 20 LAPS ...
AAH! HE PUSHED HIMSELF SO HARD THAT HE FELL!
AAH!
I SHOULDN'T HAVE ACTED SO CHILDISHLY ...
... THAT GUY ISN'T A TRAINED RUNNER,
I STARTED TO RUN FOR REAL ...
I DIDN'T REALISE IT, BUT,

KAZAMATSURI ...
HE ...
HUH?
HEY!
DA
DA
DA
I WILL NOT ADMIT DEFEAT !
GASHI
I'LL NEVER ADMIT THAT ...
GASHI IS STUMBLE. MEANS "TO GRAB", IN THIS CASE, SHO'S FOOT CATCHING ON TO HIS OTHER LEG.
IT'S REALLY TOUGH! BUT COMPARING IT TO THE TIME I SPENT AT MUSASHINOMORI, AT LEAST NOW I HAVE A CHANCE TO PLAY SOCCER, AS LONG AS I WORK HARD.
ODA'S REALLY SERIOUS ABOUT THIS,
HE'S EVEN FORGET-TING TO BLOW THE WHISTLE.
HE'S REALLY PUSHING THE LIMIT.

BATA
KAZA-MATSU-RI!
WAI
Y... YES.
WAI
YOU! GO GET A CAN OF OXYGEN!
THAT KID COULD REALLY BECOME SOME-THING.
IF TECHNIQUE COULD BE ADDED TO HIS BASIC ATHLETIC SKILL,
EVEN THOUGH HIS SOCCER SKILLS ARE AS BAD AS A PRIMARY SCHOOL KID'S.
HIS STAMINA IS NOT BAD FOR BEING SO SMALL.

BAN
ZE-
HA HA
ZE-

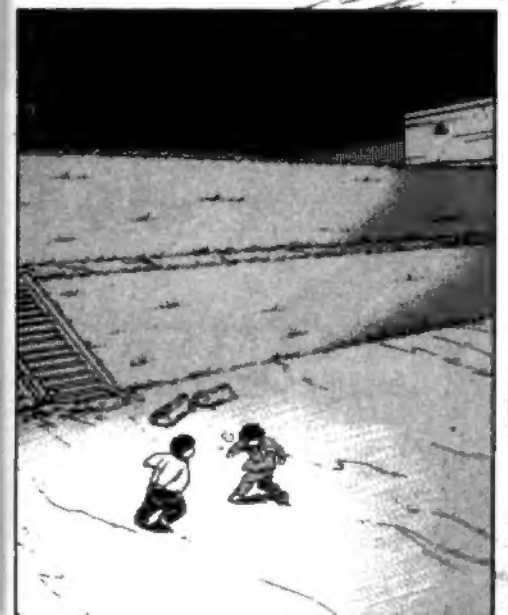
I STOLE THE BALL!
DA
ポロ
PORO
GAKU
GAKU
GAKU MEANS SHAKY, WOBBLY.

I'VE GOT TO TELL THE SENIORS ABOUT THIS.
... THAT GUY PLANS TO THE RE-JOIN CLUB.
IT'S FATTY!
HE'S WITH KAZAMA-TSURI ...

I'M SORRY.
THERE'S AN ODEN PLACE NEARBY THAT SERVES GREAT FOOD, I'LL TAKE YOU THERE.
IT'S ALREADY EIGHT? THAT'S RIGHT, YOU HAVEN'T EATEN YET, HAVE YOU?
LET'S TRY THAT AGAIN.
BOTH ARE STOMACH RUMBLING NOISES

NORO-KUN.

I'LL WAIT AS LONG AS IT TAKES, AS LONG AS KAZAMATSURI-SENPAI IS WILLING TO TEACH ME!
IT'S OK,
SORRY, I'M LATE ...

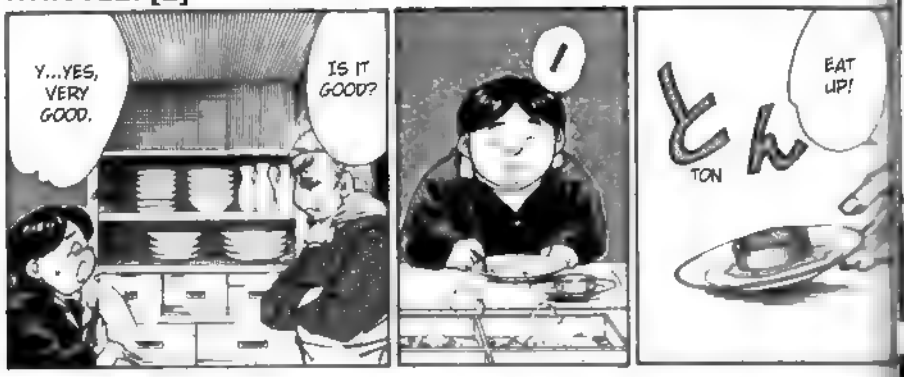


BUT EVEN THOUGH I DON'T HAVE ANYTHING TO TEACH YOU ...
I...I'M SORRY, I DIDN'T MEAN IT LIKE THAT.
NORO-KUN, I'M NOT REALLY THAT GOOD, AND I CAN'T TEACH YOU ANYTHING.
... WE CAN STILL PLAY SOCCER TOGETHER.

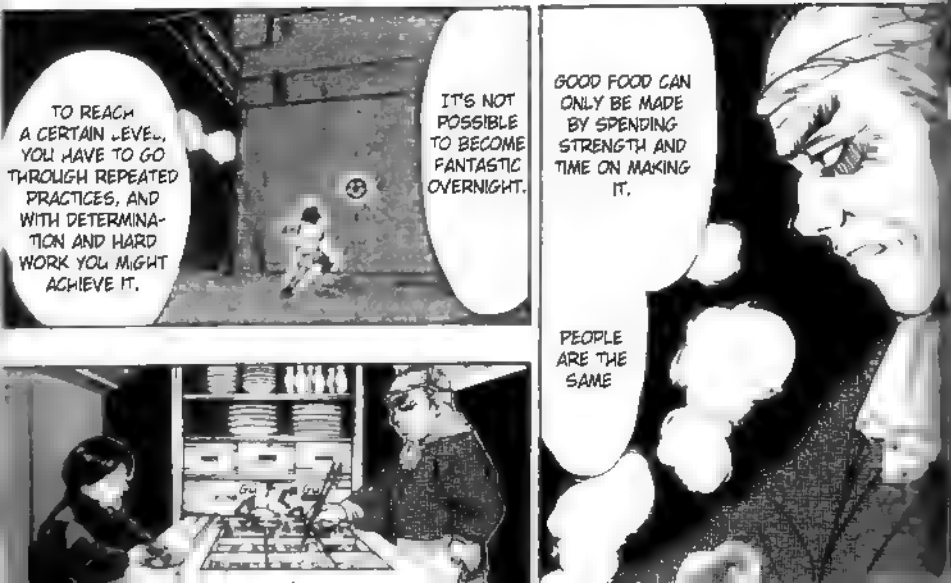
OF COURSE IT TASTES GOOD, THE ODEN INGREDIENTS I BUY ARE DIFFERENT FROM MOST.
KID, ARE YOU EATING ODEN AT A ROADSIDE STALL FOR THE FIRST TIME?
DIDN'T I TELL YOU?
IT'S COMPLETELY DIFFERENT FROM THE ODEN SERVED IN SHOPS.

I...I COULDN'T DO THAT ...
YOU KNOW, IT'S FUN WHEN TWO PEOPLE PLAY SOCCER TOGETHER, BUT IT'S EVEN BETTER WITH LOTS OF PEOPLE.
WHY DON'T YOU COME BACK TO THE CLUB.

OYA-SAN MEANS SHOP-KEEPER.
"BO" IS A COLLOQUIAL SUFFIX FOR A BOY.



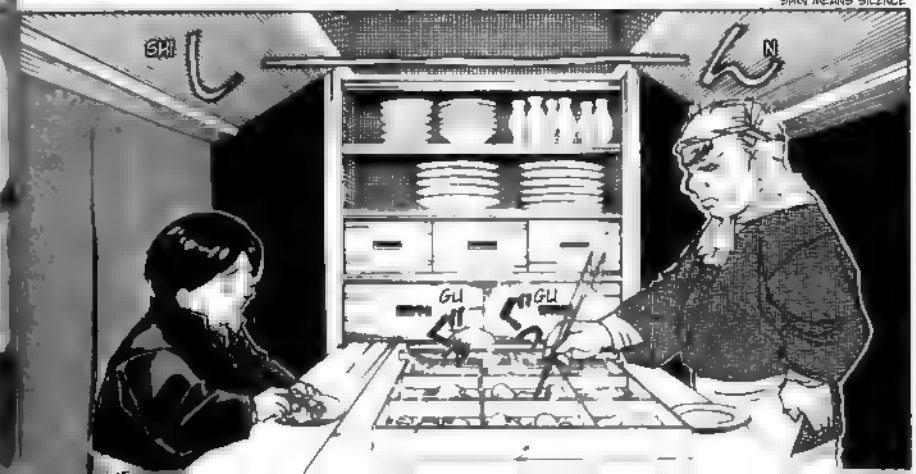
STEWED UNTIL THE BROTH AND THE JUICES OF THE OTHER ODEN INGREDIENTS ARE COMPLETELY ABSORBED, WHICH CAN ONLY BE DONE SLOWLY AND OVER TIME.
IT HAS TO BE STEWED OVER AND OVER, TO LET IT SOAK UP THE FLAVOUR OF THE SOY SAUCE BROTH DROP BY DROP.
IT'S NOT ENOUGH TO JUST POUR OUT SOME SOYA SAUCE AND DIP IT IN FOR A WHILE.
N...NO.
DO YOU KNOW HOW LONG THOSE INGREDIENTS HAVE BEEN COOKING?


TO REACH A CERTAIN LEVEL, YOU HAVE TO GO THROUGH REPEATED PRACTICES, AND WITH DETERMINATION AND HARD WORK YOU MIGHT ACHIEVE IT.
IT'S NOT POSSIBLE TO BECOME FANTASTIC OVERNIGHT.
GOOD FOOD CAN ONLY BE MADE BY SPENDING STRENGTH AND TIME ON MAKING IT.
PEOPLE ARE THE SAME
GU
GU

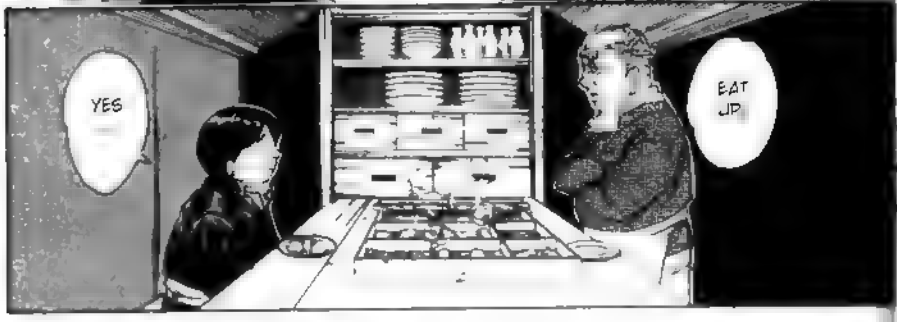
MIZUNO-SENPAI THINKS A LOT OF HIM, TOO, HE'S REALLY GREAT ...
HE'S DIFFERENT FROM THE OTHER SENPAI, HE DOESN'T PUT UP A FRONT, AND HE'S WILLING TO PRACTICE SOCCER WITH ME

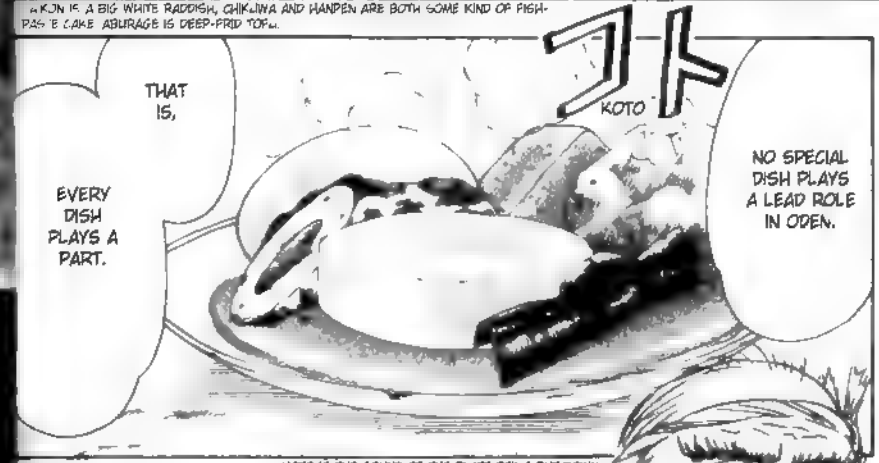
SHUN MEANS AMAZING SADL

SHIN MEANS SILENCE

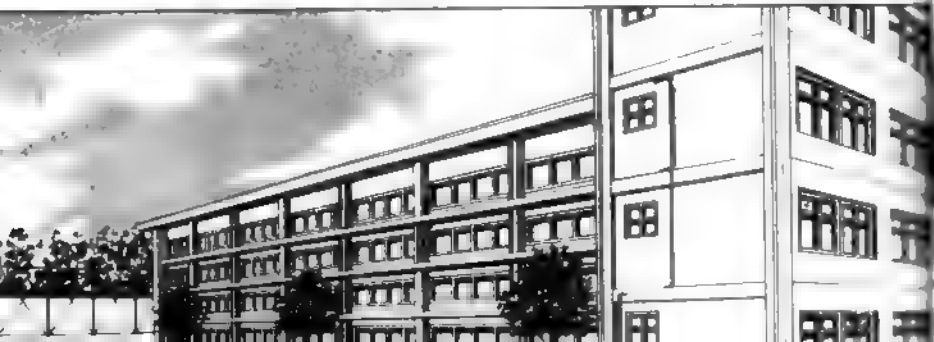


"KON IS A BIG WHITE RADDISH, CHIKUWA AND HANPEN ARE BOTH SOME KIND OF FISH-PASTE CAKE. ABURAGE IS DEEP-FRIED TOFU.





KOTO IS THE SOUND OF THE PLATE BEING PUT DOWN.



THE REASON WHY WE ALL LEFT THE SOCCER CLUB, WAS TO MAKE THINGS DIFFICULT FOR MIZUNO.
IF THE FIRST YEAR STUDENTS RETURN TO THE CLUB, WOULDN'T THAT SPOIL OUR PLAN?

YEAH, I SAW HIM PRACTICING SOCCER WITH KAZAMA-TSURI YESTER-DAY.

ALL WE HAVE TO DO IS TEACH HIM A LESSON.
HE'S SURE TO GIVE UP ON THE IDEA OF JOINING THE CLUB AGAIN.
LET'S PUT A BIT OF PRESSURE ON HIM.

THEY'RE GONNA CAUSE EVEN MORE TROUBLE ...
THOSE GUYS ARE UP TO SOME-THING AGAIN ...
WON SUGE-CHAN YOU'RE SO GOOD AT THIS

ALL RIGHT, THEN LET'S WAIT ON HIM ON HIS WAY HOME

PII
TA
TA

DA

... WOW!
PII

HE CAN STILL PRAC-TICE WITH ME ...
DA
DA
AFTER THIS KIND OF TOUGH TRAINING,

3-C
FATTY BETRAYED US?
I...!
I...
GYU

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WORLD CUP
SPECTATOR DIARY

IT TURNED OUT TO BE THE FRENCH IDEA OF A JOKE
THESE TICKETS ARE FAKES
I WAS GIVEN SUCH A SHOCK THAT I BROKE OUT IN A COLD SWEAT
UPON ENTERING THE STADIUM
BUT I DIDN'T FIND IT FUNNY AT ALL!
PERA
PERA
WHAT?
AH?
PERA PERA MEANS FLUENTLY
WHEN I CAME BACK FROM FRANCE AND TALKED ABOUT THE WORLD CUP MY FRIENDS WOULD ASK ME "WHAT ABOUT THE ENTRANCE TICKETS?"
FAKE
IDIOT MANGA ARTIST GOES TO WATCH THE WORLD CUP IN FRANCE
S'IL VOUS PLAIT
I LEARNT SOME FRENCH
GARA GORO
HIGUCHI DAISUKE
GARA GORO IS THE SOUND OF THE LUGGAGE
BUT EVER SINCE I WAS YOUNG I'D WANTED TO STAY IN SUCH A ROOM
MY ROOM WAS NEAR THE ROOF SO IT WAS A LITTLE COLD
I WATCHED THE ARGENTINA VS CROATIA MATCH AND ALSO WORKED ON SCRIPTS AND DRAFTS AT THE HOTEL IN PARIS
Q: WHICH STAGE WAS I WORKING ON?
RANDOM TALK
BUT BECAUSE IT WAS SO CLOSE IT DIDN'T SEEM REAL. IT WAS LIKE ORDINARY PEOPLE WERE PLAYING SOCCER, AS IF THOSE CELEBRITY PLAYERS WERE MY OWN NEIGHBOURS. I REALLY HOPE FOR THE DAY WHEN JAPAN TOO HAS MANY SUCH SOCCER STADIUMS.
I COULD ALMOST HEAR THE PLAYERS BREATHING
I WAS SURPRISED UPON ENTERING THE ARENA! THAT MY SEAT WAS REALLY CLOSE TO THE FIELD!
I'M INCREDIBLY FORTUNATE TO BE ABLE TO BE PRESENT FOR JAPANS FIRST TIME PARTICIPATING IN THE WORLD CUP. I'M SO GRATEFUL.' IT MUST BE LUCK FROM MY PAST LIFE. IT WAS REGRETTABLE THAT JAPAN HAD THREE LOSSES. I PLAN TO DRAW MY THOUGHTS ON THIS EXPERIENCE INTO "WHISTLE!", SO MAKE SURE TO READ IT, EVERYONE.
NEAR THE SNACK STALLS OF THE STADIUM, I FOUND A PRETTY GIRL! I WAS TOTALLY SPEECHLESS AT THAT TIME, HERE'S THE PHOTOGRAPH AS PROOF
ALSO
BECAUSE I WAS SO NEAR TO THE ACTION I GOT QUITE OVERWHELMED. AT FIRST, I UNDERESTIMATED CROATIA, BUT THEY'RE REALLY VERY STRONG (I REALIZED THIS AFTER I GOT BACK AND WATCHED THE VIDEO) I WAS ON TV TOO, AS THE SILLY-LOOKING GUY AMONGST THE SPECTATORS
THERE WERE SOME VERY PATRIOTIC FANS NEAR WHERE I SAT. THEY RAISED THEIR FLAG REALLY HIGH. IT WAS VERY MOVING TO SEE
YOU MUST WIN!
BY THE WAY
GOOD TIME

A: STAGE 19 AND 20

WHISTLE!

VOLUME 2
CHAPTER 9

Presented by:
HoshiManga

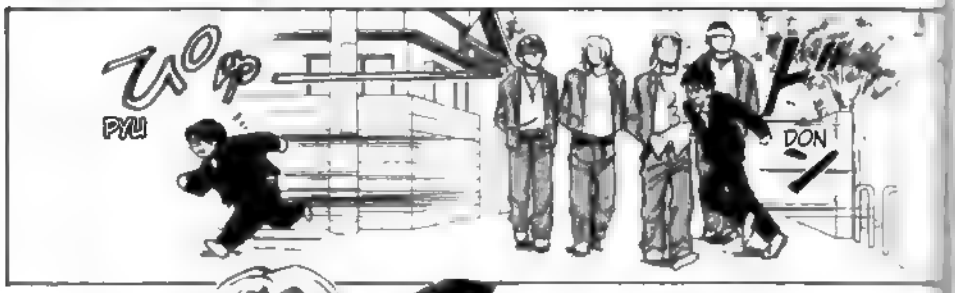
STAGE.9
A SINCERE HEART

HE WAS WILLING TO PLAY SOCCER WITH ME, EVEN THOUGH HE WAS TIRED
HE WAS SO EXHAUSTED THAT HE FELL ASLEEP HERE ..
HAN
HAN
HAN
KII
PON
LET'S PLAY TOGETHER
KAZAMATSURI-SENPAI?
THANK YOU.
I'LL GO TAKE A LOOK.
STRANGE, WHAT'S TAKING SHO SO LONG IN THERE?
KAZA-MATSURI-SENPAI!
COME WITH US!
!!

KAZA-MATSURI ...
KUSHA
クシャ
THE THIRD YEARS WHO WITHDREW PLAN TO KEEP FATTY FROM RETURNING TO THE SOCCER CLUB, THEY'RE IN THE PARK RIGHT NOW.

KYORO MEANS HE IS LOOKING AROUND

PIKU IS A VEIN POPPING

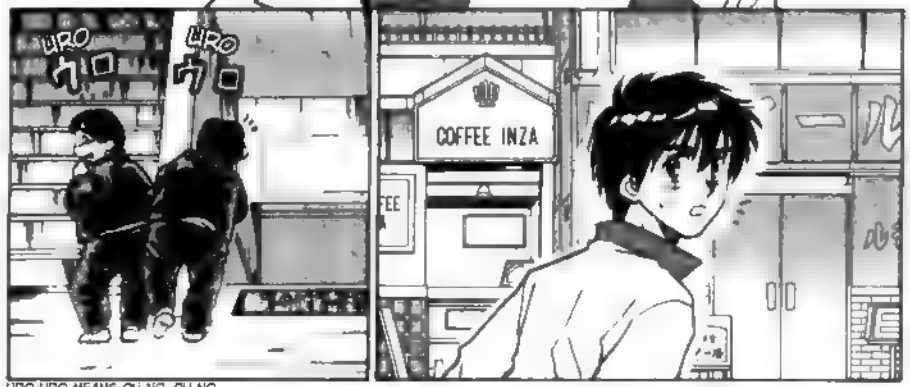


CRAP! THESE GUYS ARE FROM THAT NOTORIOUS HIGH SCHOOL!
WHO D'YA THINK YA TALKIN' TO?
WHAT YA SAYIN'?
IDIOT! WHAT'RE YOU DOING JUST STANDING AROUND!
TA
TA
TA

GIVE ME A DEFINITE ANSWER, AND I'LL LET YOU GO.
NOW, DO YOU STILL PLAN TO REJOIN THE CLUB?
YOU DON'T WANT TO CAUSE TROUBLE FOR YOURSELF, DO YOU?
EVERY-ONE LEFT THE CLUB TO MAKE TROUBLE FOR MIZUNO.
YET YOU, A MERE FIRST YEAR, WANT TO RETURN... DON'T YOU THINK THAT'S PUSHING IT?
I...

IT'S TRUE THAT I ALMOST GOT ROUGHED UP, BUT THEN SENPAI-TACHI RAN INTO SOME SCARY-LOOKING GUYS, SO I WAS ABLE TO ESCAPE ...
THEY WERE TAKEN IN THERE MORE THAN AN HOUR AGO ...
THEY ARE IN THE AR-CADE.
WHAT ABOUT SENPAI-TACHI?

TACHI IS A SUFFIX FOR A GROUP OF PEOPLE
"SENPAI-TACHI" = "THE SENPAIS"



URO URO MEANS OH NO, OH NO.

WE DIDN'T COME HERE FOR ANYTHING, DO... DON'T SAY ANYTHING HASTY NOW.
WHY I CAME HERE?
I DIDN'T ASK FOR YA NAME, I ASKED WHAT YA WERE DOIN' HERE!
WHAT I CAME HERE FOR.
SEN... SENPAI, LET'S RUN AWAY!
WHAT ARE YOU THINKING?
MY NAME IS KAZAMATSURI.
I HAVE NO IDEA!
WHADDYA MEAN "NO IDEA"?
IS THIS GUY FOR REAL?
EH.

HRK!
WHATCHA DOIN' HERE?
WHY ARE THEY HERE?
KAZAMATSURI AND FATTY

...
I CAN'T IGNORE THIS!
I CAN'T LET MYSELF BECOME SOMEONE WHO PRETENDS NOT TO SEE WHAT'S GOING ON.

JARI
"JARI" IS A "CRUNCHY" NOISE LIKE INFLATING+STEPPING ON GRAVEL OR EATING POTATO CHIPS
...
I WANTED TO SAVE SENPAI-TACHI.
SO I CAME HERE, THAT'S ALL THERE IS TO IT.

KID! YOU THINK THAT'S FUNNY!?
GAN
WAAH!

I'M NOT TRYING TO BE FUNNY.
YET...
DOKUN
DOKUN
DOKUN
DOKUN IS THE SOUND OF A HEART THUMPING.
NO ONE ASKED YOU FOR YOUR HELP ...
... SO STOP TRYING TO BE A HERO!
IT'S... IT'S NONE OF YOUR BUSI-NESS!
ALL I KNOW IS THAT THEY WERE BROUGHT HERE BY YOU GUYS ...
AS FOR HOW TO SAVE THEM, I DIDN'T THINK ABOUT THAT AT ALL.
NORO-KUN WANTS TO PLAY SOCCER, BUT YOU GUYS USE VIOLENCE TO BULLY HIM INTO WITH-DRAWING, IT'S DISGUST-ING!
WHAT!
WELL ... I HATE SENPAI-TACHI TOO!

YOU DARE TO DEFY US!?
GA
YOU'RE REALLY ASKIN' FOR IT!
ANYONE WE THINK IS BETTER OFF DEAD CAN GO TO HELL!
HE GONNA KILL THAT KID?
HE'S REALLY GONE CRAZY.
DOKA
SENPAI-TACHI
LET THEM GO
GU
KE KE ...
SO YA LIL' SHIT IS A SOCCER PLAY'AH ...
KE KE IS A COUGHING.
GASHI
SO WHAT IF I JUST BREAK YOUR DAMN LEG!?
BABA
CRAP!
SENPAI!

DO
KA
I ...
... WANTED TO KICK YA, SO I DID!
THAT'S GOTTA HURT
DO
IT'S GUYS LIKE YOU I HATE DA MOST!
YA LIL' SHIT!
YOU GUYS MAY HAVE SOME PRIVATE ISSUES,
HSH...
BUT I COULDN'T CARE LESS.
GERI

BURU MEANS HE'S TREMBLING WITH EXCITEMENT

WHEN STUDENTS ARE CAUGHT FIGHTING, IT REFLECTS BADLY ON THEIR SCHOOL AND CLUB. WHAT THE SENIOR MEANS IS THAT IF THEY FIGHT RATHER THAN GIVE, THEN THE CLUB WON'T GET INTO TROUBLE.

IT'S ONE OF THE GREAT PLEASURES OF LIFE TO HAVE COKE AFTER SOME EXERCISE.
AH——!
GOKU

LET THEM HAVE A CHANCE TO BE REAL MEN, 'KAY?
WHATEVER!
BUT, SENPAI-TACHI ...
WHAT!?
SHIGE, THE POLICE ARE HERE.
AH?
GASHI
LET'S GET OUTTA HERE, KID!

I WANNA PLAY TOO!
WHO ARE YOU ...!?
DO

PAGU
HI, LONG TIME NO SEE!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?
SHIGE?

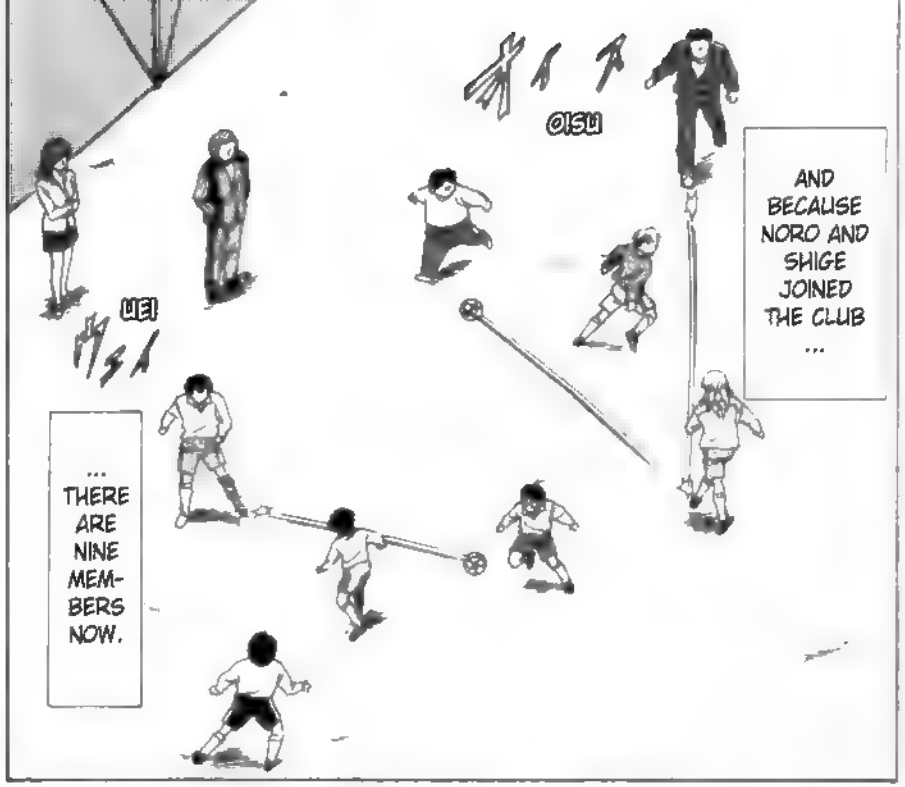
IF THERE'S GONNA BE A FIGHT, LET'S MAKE IT A BIG ONE!
HEH HEH ...
HAA!
HAA!
HAA!
HAA!
DO
LESS TALKING MORE FIGHTING!

AWW, DON'T BE LIKE THAT, MIZU-NII!
HIRA
SHIGE, WHAT WERE YOU THINKING?
HIRA
IT WAS YOU?
WHY DID YOU LEAVE THE CLUB?
I JUST WANTED TO SEE WHAT REACTION THIS KID WOULD HAVE
WHAT DID I INTEND ...
TATSU-BON, HERE'S SOMETHING GOOD
DON'T CALL ME THAT!
YOU'VE ALREADY LEFT THE CLUB, WHAT DID YOU INTEND BY GIVING THIS TO KAZAMATSURI?
TATSU-BON IS ANOTHER OF SHIGE'S NICKNAMES FOR MIZUNO.
YOU PASSED.
SUTO
?
COMPARED TO THEM, YOU'RE MUCH MORE INTERESTING.
TON
TON
TON
GOOD QUESTION. THE TIME I SPENT IN THE CLUB WAS TOTALLY BORING.
AND THOSE SENPAI HAD AN ATTITUDE THAT I COULDN'T STAND.
MIZUNO HAD NO SENSE OF HUMOUR.
PO
I'VE MADE UP MY MIND!

HUH? WHAT HAPPENED?
YOU COME WITH US, TOO
SEN-PAI.

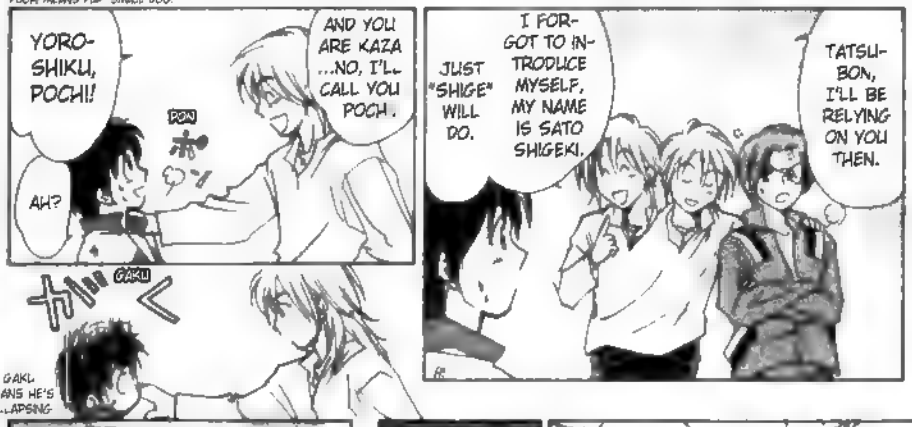
FUAN
FUAN
FUAN

MIZUNO-KUN?
I DID.
SHEESH! WHO CALLED THE COPS?
AH! THE NOTE I THREW!
THIS.
PIRA
HOW DID YOU KNOW?

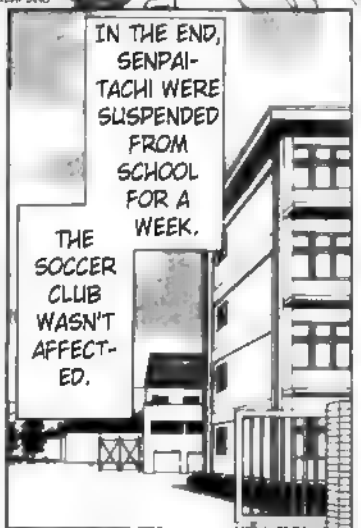


YOU RARELY ATTEND CLASS, HUH?
YOU DIDN'T KNOW WE WERE IN THE SAME CLASS?
JA
SHIGE, ARE WE IN THE SAME CLASS!? THAT MEANS YOU ARE A SECOND YEAR TOO!
AH!

YOROSHIKU IS A TRADITIONAL JAPANESE PHRASE SAID UPON MEETING SOMEONE PROPERLY FOR THE FIRST TIME. KINDA LIKE SAYING: "LET'S GET ALONG." POCHI MEANS PUP. SMALL DOG.


YOROSHIKU, POCHI!
AND YOU ARE KAZA ...NO, I'LL CALL YOU POCH.
DON
AH?
JUST "SHIGE" WILL DO.
I FORGOT TO INTRODUCE MYSELF, MY NAME IS SATO SHIGEKI.
TATSUBON, I'LL BE RELYING ON YOU THEN.

GAKU MEANS HE'S COLLAPSING



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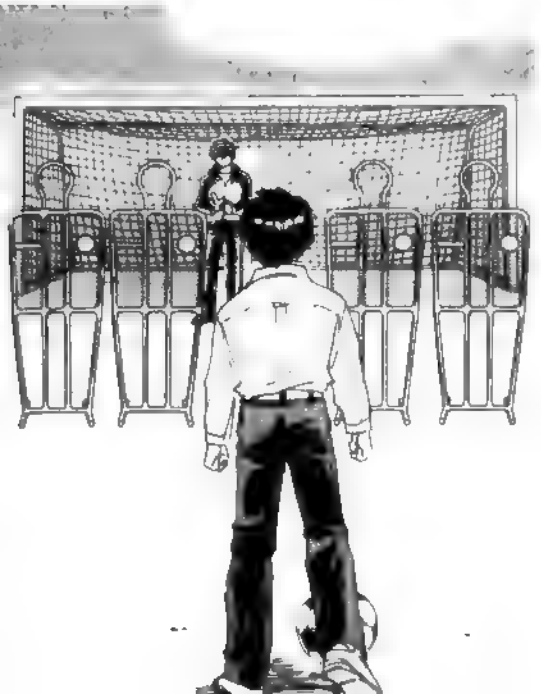
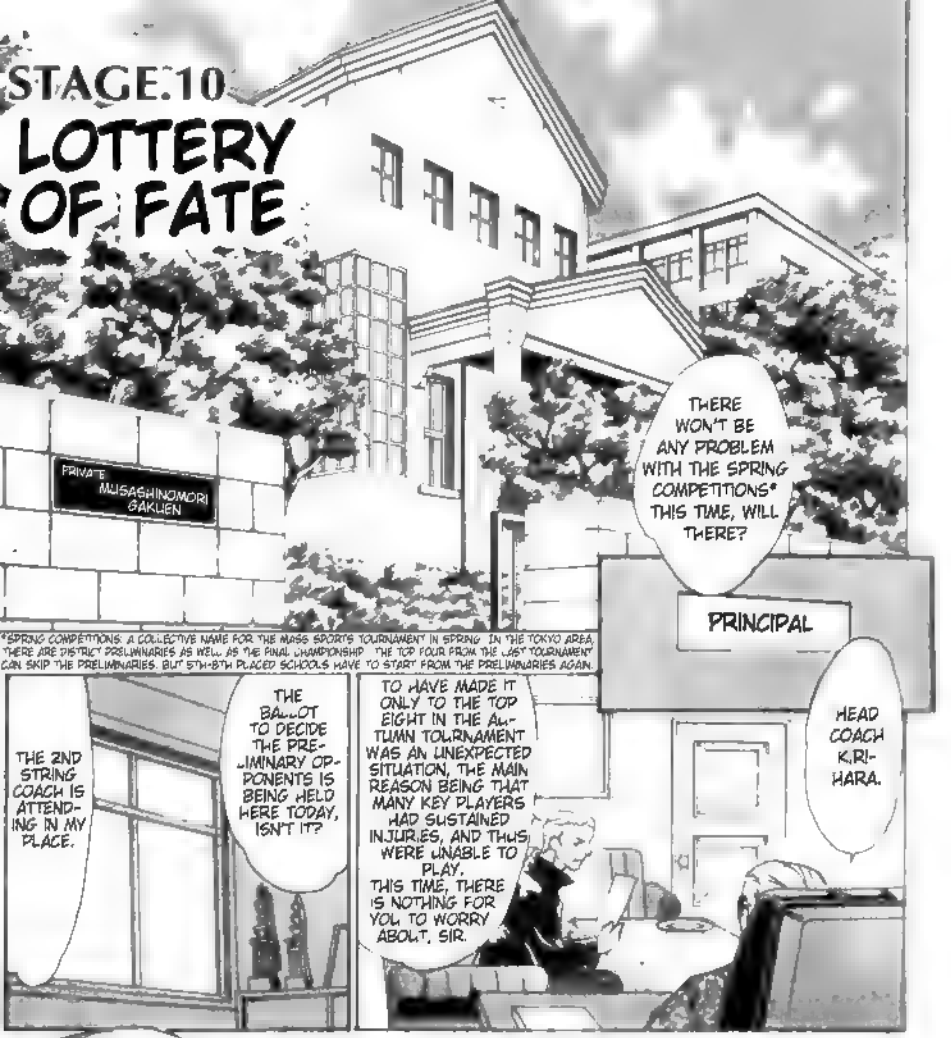


Next chapter:
Lottery of Fate

WHISTLE! THEATRE!


STAGE.10
LOTTERY OF FATE
PRIVATE MUSASHINOMORI GAKUEN
THERE WON'T BE ANY PROBLEM WITH THE SPRING COMPETITIONS* THIS TIME, WILL THERE?
PRINCIPAL
HEAD COACH KIRIHARA.
TO HAVE MADE IT ONLY TO THE TOP EIGHT IN THE AUTUMN TOURNAMENT WAS AN UNEXPECTED SITUATION, THE MAIN REASON BEING THAT MANY KEY PLAYERS HAD SUSTAINED INJURIES, AND THUS WERE UNABLE TO PLAY.
THIS TIME, THERE IS NOTHING FOR YOU TO WORRY ABOUT, SIR.
THE BALLOT TO DECIDE THE PRELIMINARY OPPONENTS IS BEING HELD HERE TODAY, ISN'T IT?
THE 2ND STRING COACH IS ATTENDING IN MY PLACE.
*SPRING COMPETITIONS: A COLLECTIVE NAME FOR THE MASS SPORTS TOURNAMENT IN SPRING. IN THE TOKYO AREA, THERE ARE DISTRICT PRELIMINARIES AS WELL AS THE FINAL CHAMPIONSHIP. THE TOP FOUR FROM THE LAST TOURNAMENT CAN SKIP THE PRELIMINARIES. BUT 5TH-8TH PLACED SCHOOLS HAVE TO START FROM THE PRELIMINARIES AGAIN.
WE HAVEN'T HAD TO GO THROUGH THE PRELIMINARIES FOR TEN YEARS... WE MUST WORK HARD.
YES, AND SINCE THE 2ND STRING PLAYERS WILL HAVE MORE CHANCES TO PLAY IN THE PRELIMINARIES, WE CAN IMPROVE THE STRENGTH OF THE ENTIRE TEAM AS WELL.
SAKURA JOO MIDDLE SCHOOL
MIZUNO ...

WHISTLE!

VOLUME 2
CHAPTER 10

Presented by:

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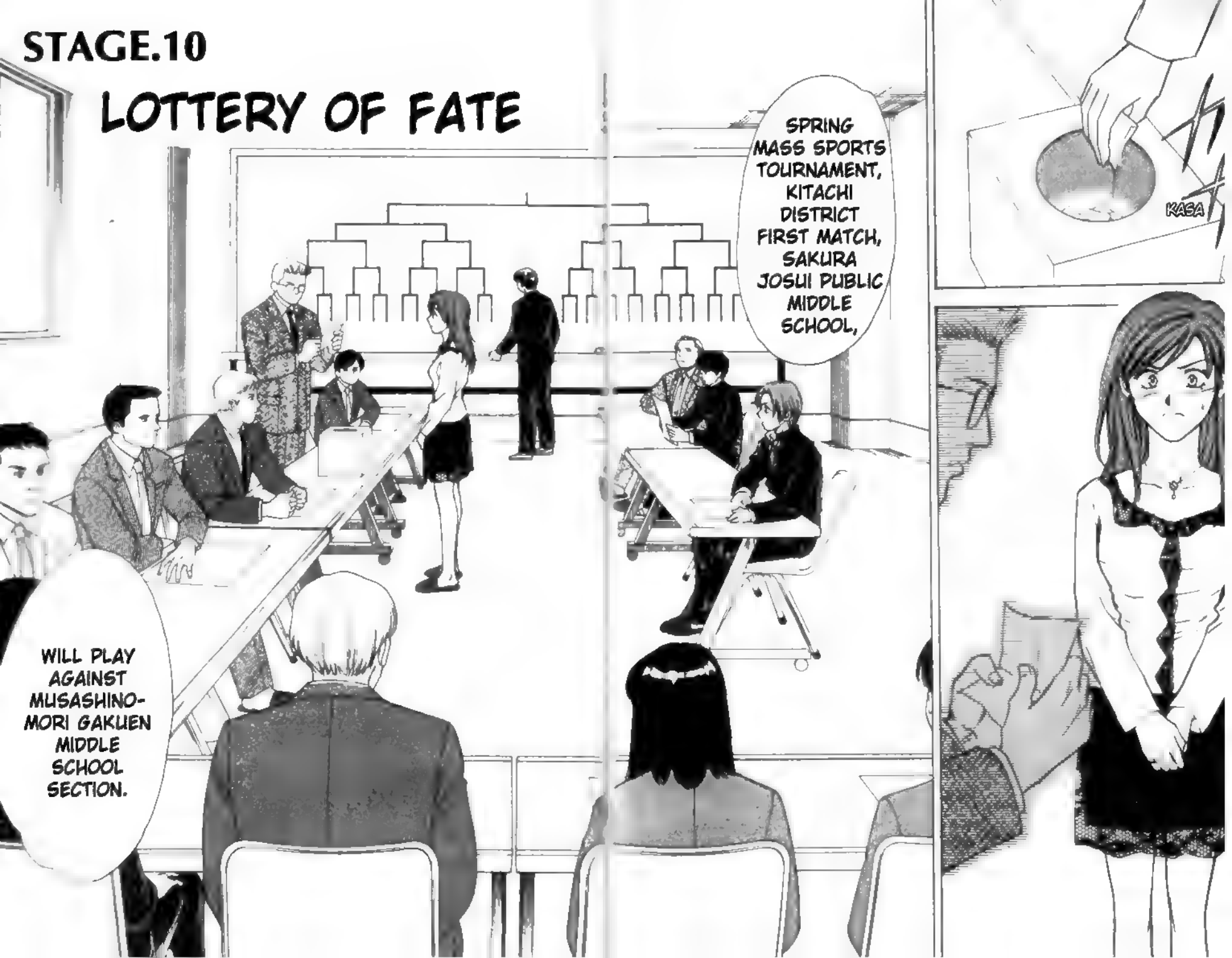
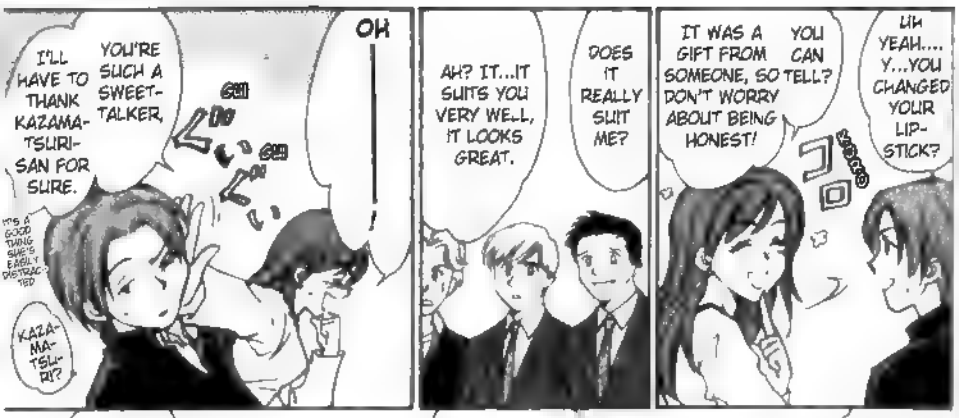
STAGE.10

LOTTERY OF FATE


SPRING MASS SPORTS TOURNAMENT, KITACHI DISTRICT FIRST MATCH, SAKURA JOSUI PUBLIC MIDDLE SCHOOL,
WILL PLAY AGAINST MUSASHINO-MORI GAKUEN MIDDLE SCHOOL SECTION.
KASA


OH
I'LL HAVE TO THANK KAZAMATSURI-SAN FOR SURE.
YOU'RE SUCH A SWEET-TALKER.
GU
GU
GU
IT'S A GOOD THING SHE'S EASILY DISTRACTED
KAZAMATSURI?
AH? IT...IT SUITS YOU VERY WELL, IT LOOKS GREAT.
DOES IT REALLY SUIT ME?
IT WAS A GIFT FROM SOMEONE, SO DON'T WORRY ABOUT BEING HONEST!
YOU CAN TELL?
UH YEAH.... Y...YOU CHANGED YOUR LIP-STICK?
KORORO

HE'S PROBABLY TIED UP WITH HIS OLD FRIENDS.
HE SAID THAT HE WANTED TO LOOK AROUND A BIT SINCE HE HASN'T BEEN BACK HERE FOR A WHILE.
THAT'S RIGHT! WHY ISN'T KAZAMATSURI-KUN HERE YET?

KU
KU
KU
KU

THEY AREN'T CONCERNED ABOUT THE PRELIMI-NARIES AT ALL.
MUSASHINO-MORI WASN'T REPRESEN-TED BY THE FIRST STRING COACH AND CAPTAIN.

カ GA
ん N
NO WAY!

EXCELLENT!

WE MEET MUSASHI-NOMORI IN OUR VERY FIRST MATCH.

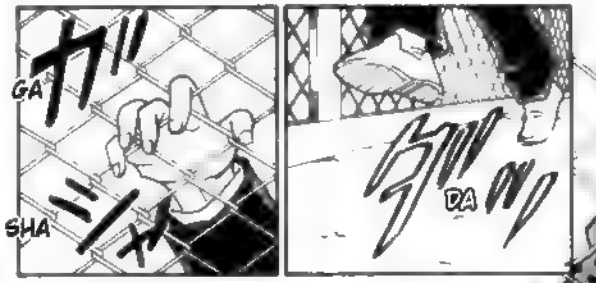
SAKURA JOSUI ALWAYS DROPS OUT BY THE SE-COND MATCH, SO IT WON'T BE MUCH DIFFERENCE IF THEY JUST DROP OUT IN THE FIRST ROUND THIS YEAR.
MEETING MUSASHINO-MORI IN THE FIRST GAME, THEY'LL BE SO STUNNED THAT THEY CAN'T PUT UP A FIGHT
THANK-FULLY WE DIDN'T GET SLOTTED AGAINST MUSASHI-NOMORI.

SEN-SEI!
WE DO HAVE SELF-ESTEEM, TOO!
WHAT DO YOU GUYS THINK YOU'RE SAYING!
DON'T MAKE A FUSS!

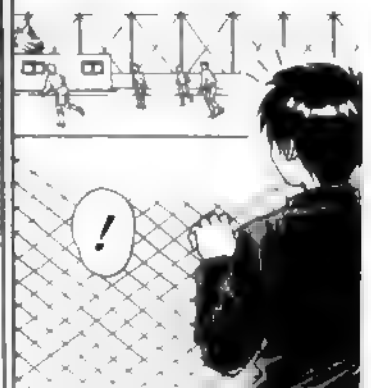
IF THIS WERE JUST A LUCKY DRAW IN A DEPARTMENT STORE... BUT I DON'T WANT TO WIN A PRIZE LIKE THIS!
WH...WHAT ARE WE GONNA DO? MIZUNO, WE'RE FACING SUPER STRONG OPPO-NENTS IN THE FIRST GAME!
UWAAN!
"WHAT ARE WE GOING TO DO"? JUST PLAY AS EXPECTED, OF COURSE.

THEY'RE PRACTIC-ING FREE KICKS.

CAPTAIN SHIBUSAWA, THIRD YEAR,
AND SECOND YEAR FUJISHIRO.


GA
SHA
DA

WA
WA
THEY ARE AS SKILFUL AS EVER.


!

ESPECIALLY THE CAPTAIN, HE MANAGES TO DEFEND AGAINST EVERY BALL, INCREDIBLE!
THEY'RE FANTASTIC! THEIR SPEED AND BALL CONTROL FAR SURPASSES THE MIDDLE SCHOOL LEVEL!

THEY'VE EVEN PLAYED IN INTERNATIONAL YOUTH CUP MATCHES, THEIR ABILITY IS REALLY SOMETHING ELSE.
THE TWO OF THEM ARE KNOWN AS MUSASHI-NOMORI'S STAR GOAL-SCORER AND DEFENDING GUARDIAN.

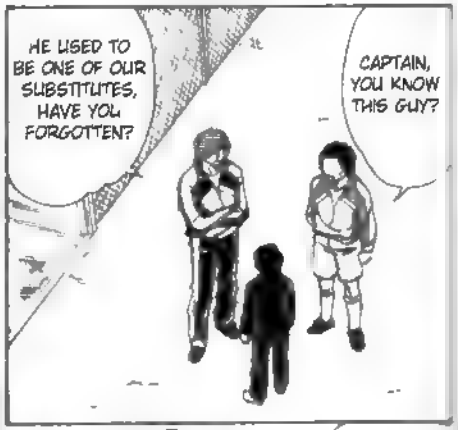
GUI MEANS GRAB

WHAT'S SO FUNNY!
WHAT'S THE PROBLEM HERE?

NOW I KNOW WHY I HAVEN'T SEEN YOU RECENTLY, YOU'VE TRANSFERRED SCHOOLS RIGHT?
EH?
AH?

YOU'RE KAZAMATSURI, AREN'T YOU?
CAPTAIN, THIS GUY IS ...

SHIBUSAWA-SENPAI, HE
HE STILL REMEMBERS EVEN SOMEONE LIKE ME,
HE NOTICED ME.


HE USED TO BE ONE OF OUR SUBSTITUTES, HAVE YOU FORGOTTEN?
CAPTAIN, YOU KNOW THIS GUY?

SHIBUSAWA-SENPAI...
AMONGST THE FIRST YEAR MEMBERS, HE WORKED THE HARDEST ...

BA
KU
KU
CHE!
SUTO

WHAT SCHOOL ARE YOU FROM?
I WAS PRETTY CONFIDENT OF THAT SHOT, BUT YOU BLOCKED IT ANYWAY.
CHE
APTY.

GE
HOW DO YOU KNOW MY NAME?
AMANO-SENPAI, YOU'VE MISUNDERSTOOD ME ..

I CAN'T BLAME HIM.
HA HA
HE'S DOESN'T REMEMBER ME

THAT KID .

NO, I'M NOT!
I'LL BET YOU'RE HERE TO SPY ON US!
WHAT'S GOING ON?

I REMEMBER NOW! THAT KID!
HE'S THE GUY THAT LEFT THE CLUB 'COS WE MISTREATED HIM SO BADLY ...
AFTER GOING THROUGH ALL THAT, I REALLY THOUGHT HE WOULD HAVE GIVEN UP ON SOCCER!
SHIBUSAWA-SENPAI IS WILLING TO PRACTICE WITH ME.
IT'S LIKE I'M DREAMING!
DOK
DOK
KA

CALM DOWN! CALM DOWN, SHO!
DOES HE KNOW HOW TO KICK THE BALL AT ALL?
CAPTAIN, VS A PREVIOUS SUBSTITUTE
WHAT'S UP?
I HAVE TO BE A WORTHY OPPONENT FOR SENPAI.
THE UPPER RIGHT CORNER OF THE GOAL!
ONLY ONE TARGET!
HAVEN'T I PRACTICED THIS COUNTLESS TIMES?
SU
RECALL THE SITUATION WHEN I WAS TRAINING AGAINST THE WALL.
GULP
FU

WELL,
ARE YOU STILL PLAYING SOCCER?
AH? I, I'M IN SAKURA JOSUI MIDDLE SCHOOL ...
WHICH SCHOOL DO YOU STUDY AT NOW?

YES!

SENPAI! THIS ...
IT'S ALL RIGHT
AH?
WELL THEN, COME AND HAVE A TRY.
KAZA-MATSURI .. KAZAMA-TSURI ...
AH!
CAPTAIN'S JUST LIKE THAT

AH!
KU N
MUSASHI
THERE!
!
BA
SHII

THE LEFT LEG!
SU
ALL SHOW THAT HE'S OBVIOUSLY AIMING FOR THE RIGHT!
COMPLETELY UNSKILLED! HIS LINE OF SIGHT, LEG, AND THE DIRECTION OF HIS BODY,
ZA
DOKA

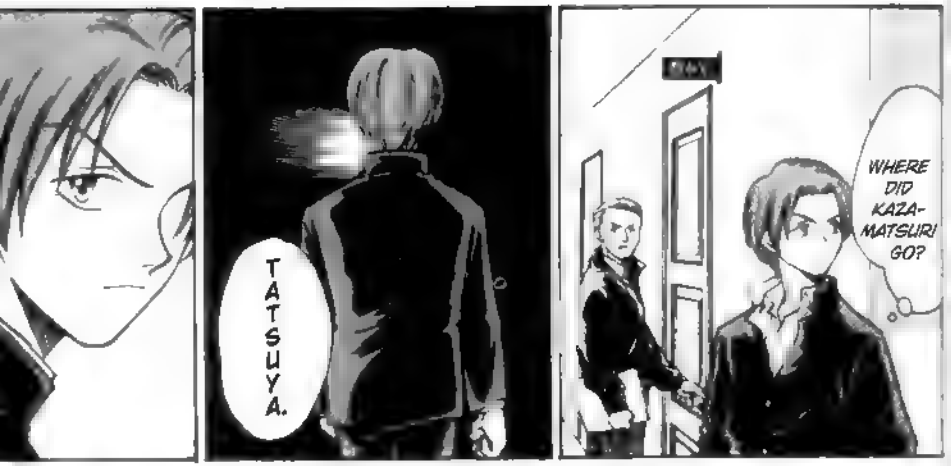
AH!
!
コロ
KORO

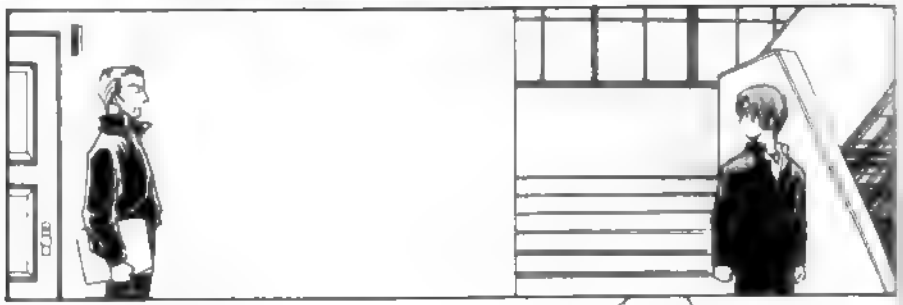
はへ
HA

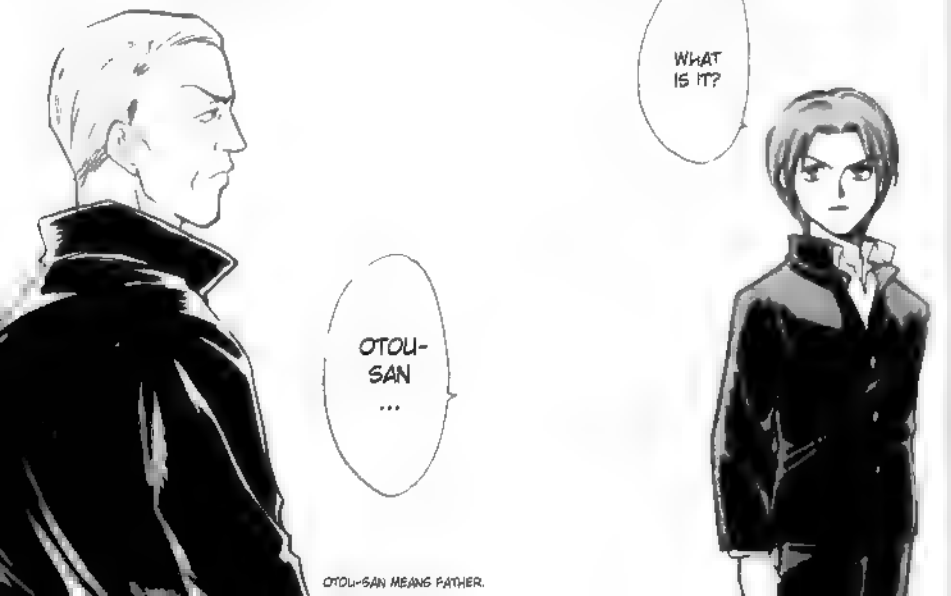
THAT KID DID A HEADER, WAS HE TRYING TO INJURE SHIBUSAWA?
WASN'T THAT A FLUKE?
IT, IT'S IN!

I WANT TO THANK YOU.
ABOUT THIS
I'M REALLY VERY SORRY ...
DID, DID YOU GET HURT?
I'M ALL RIGHT!
I JUST CHARGED FORWARD WITHOUT THINKING!
GOMEN!
ぴょん
PYON
GO ...

ビ
BI
ガ
GA





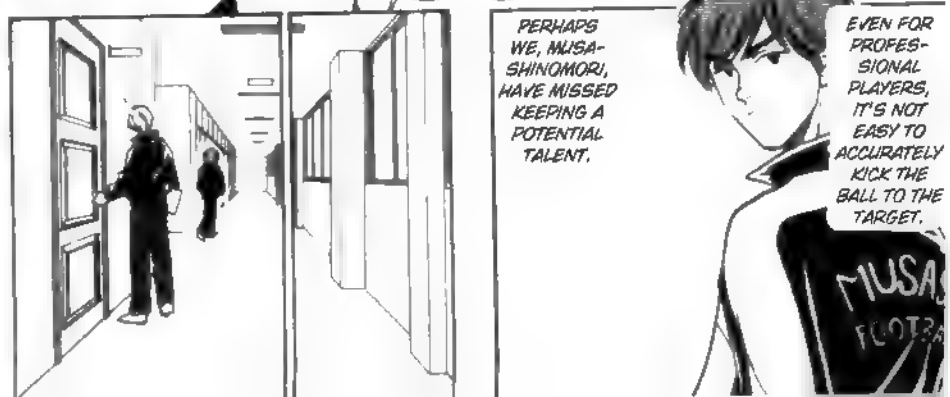


OTOU-SAN MEANG FATHER.

KI-N KO-N IS THE SCHOOL BELL CHIMING

KI
KO
N
KAZA
I INTER-RUPTED YOUR PRACTICE, I APOLO-GISE.
IF I HAD GIVEN UP BACK THEN, I WOULDN'T HAVE HAD THIS EXPERIENCE TODAY.
IN THE PAST, I WAS ALWAYS THINKING OF GIVING UP ON SOCCER, THANKFULLY I DIDN'T END UP QUITTING.

HE HAS A FIERCE DETERMI-NATION TO SCORE!
CAPTAIN WAS JUST PLAYING ALONG WITH HIM, HE DIDN'T HAVE TO GET SO SERIOUS.
WHAT A THICK-SKINNED GUY.
DO YOU KNOW WHAT THAT IS?
THAT KID HAS SOME-THING THAT ALL OF YOU LACK,
THAT'S NOT AL.. TRUE.


PERHAPS WE, MUSA-SHINOMORI, HAVE MISSED KEEPING A POTENTIAL TALENT.
EVEN FOR PROFES-SIONAL PLAYERS, IT'S NOT EASY TO ACCURATELY KICK THE BALL TO THE TARGET.

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Next Chapter:
The Reason Why One Cannot Lose.

DAISUKE NOTE

SECOND INSTALLMENT OF BASIC DATA ON MAIN CHARACTERS WHO HAVE RECEIVED GOOD FEEDBACK.

佐藤茂樹
SHIGEKI SATO

PERSONAL DATA	
BIRTHDAY	1983 7 8
SIZE	171cm 58kg
BLOOD TYPE	B
FAVOUR TE FOOD	SEAFOOD CRACKER, COKE
DISL KES	GIRLY MEN
INTERESTS & ABILITIES	HANDCRAFT KES TO DEFEND VICTMS AGA NST STRONG OPPRESSORS

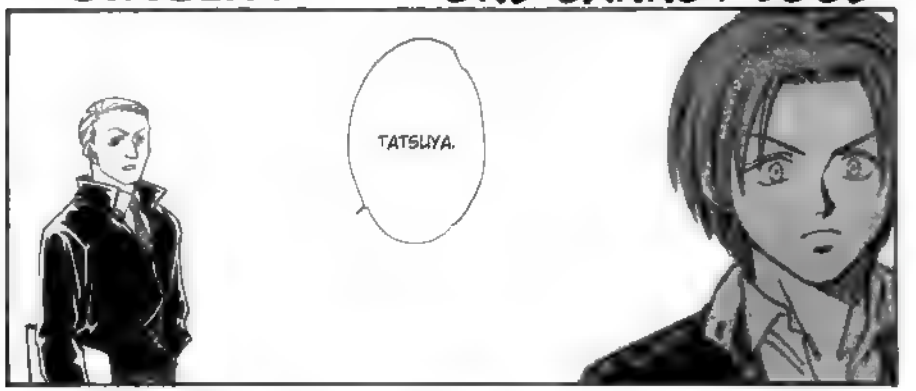
OYA-SAN OF THE ROADSIDE ODEN STALL

NAME NOT REVEALED

PERSONAL DATA	
BIRTHDAY	OBVIUSLY OLDER THAN EVERYONE ELSE
SIZE	144cm 60kg
BLOOD TYPE	B
FAVOUR TE FOOD	WH TE R CE, SEASONED DA KON
D SL KES	FROG
INTERESTS & AB LITIES	USING CIGARETTE BOXES TO MAKE TEM PLES AND FORTS COOK NG ODEN

STAGE.11

THE REASON WHY ONE CANNOT LOSE



OTOU-SAN MEANS FATHER.

WHISTLE!

VOLUME 1
CHAPTER 11

Presented by:

HoshiManga

IT'S NO WONDER THAT I DIDN'T NOTICE, THEN.
I NEVER THOUGHT THAT YOU WOULD ENTER A SCHOOL WITH A SOCCER CLUB THAT NEVER MAKES IT PAST THE SECOND ROUND OF PRELIMINARY MATCHES. .
JIRO MEANS HE STARES (NOT A SOUND).
JIRO
CHE! SO YOU'RE AT SAKURA JOSHI MIDDLE SCHOOL?

* 11 IS THE MINIMUM NUMBER FOR A STARTING SOCCER TEAM (1 GOALKEEPER + 10 PLAYERS)

MUKA IS A PISSED OFF LOOK.

STAGE.11
THE REASON WHY ONE CANNOT LOSE

KAZAMA-TSURI!
!
DA
TATSUYA!
.....
YOU SAW SOME UNPLEASANT FAMILY BUSINESS ...
MY PARENTS ...
MI-ZUNO-KUN
... WERE DIVORCED TWO YEARS AGO.
"MIZUNO" IS MY MOTHER'S MAIDEN NAME.
EVEN IF MY PARENTS HADN'T GOTTEN A DIVORCE, I WOULD HAVE LEFT HOME.
I TRANS-FERRED TO SAKURA JOSU! BE-CAUSE I DIDN'T WANT TO PLAY SOCCER UNDER THAT MAN.
I'M MY OWN PERSON, I DON'T WANT TO BECOME A PUPPET WITH HIM HOLDING THE STRINGS.
... THE ONLY THING YOU'RE INTERESTED IN IS RESULTS.
THE ONLY THING YOU THINK ABOUT IS VICTORY ...
THEN DO IT AFTER YOU'VE BEATEN MY TEAM!
HOW ABOUT IT?
IF YOU WANT TO MAKE ME ADMIT THAT I'M WRONG,
WHAT'S WRONG WITH PURSUING VICTORY?
WHAT OF IT?
SINCE KAA-SAN LEFT YOU,
SHE SMILES A LOT MORE.
TOU-SAN!
TOU-SAN MEANS DAD
KAA-SAN MEANS MOM.
THOUGH OF COURSE, YOU'LL ONLY BE PLAYING AGAINST THE SECOND STRING.

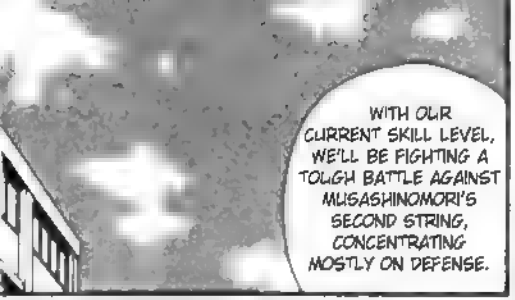
HEY! KID! WHY'D YOU HAVE TO GO AND DRAW MUSASHI-NOMORI?
GURI GURI
DIDN'T YOU THINK ABOUT OUR LEVEL OF PLAY? WHY DIDN'T YOU DRAW A TEAM WEAKER THAN US?
THIS GUY JUST CAN'T ADAPT TO THE SITUATION.
ACTUALLY I WAS THE ONE WHO DREW THAT NAME
SORRY
HE HE
... AS TO BE EXPECTED FROM OUR GREAT LEADER.
WHO'S YOUR "GREAT LEADER" ?!
PESHI
YOUR LUCK IS IMPRESSIVE!

GURI GURI IS THE SOUND OF GIVING NOOGIES.

I HAD MANAGED TO WORK UP SOME ENTHUSIASM,
BUT NOW IT'S SUDDENLY DISAPPEARED.
PIKU!
MEN NEED TO HAVE THE KIND OF SPIRIT THAT FIGHTS ON DESPITE KNOWING CLEARLY THAT THEY'LL LOSE!
UNDERSTAND? TAKAI-KUN!
WHAT'S WITH HER?
SHE FELT SLIGHTED BY THEM, THUS THIS DETERMINATION TO WIN
GO
STARTING TODAY, EVERYONE WILL PRACTICE THEIR ASSIGNED POSITIONS.
IT'S TWO WEEKS UNTIL THE MATCH.
DEFENDERS WILL BE HANAZAWA, MORINAGA, NORO AND SOTOYAMA, PRACTICE AS THE BACK ROW OF DEFENSE.
MIDFIELDERS WILL BE KOGA, GOMI, TANAKA AND MYSELF, WE'LL PRACTICE MIDFIELD DEFENSE AND OFFENSE.

WHAT ARE YOU GUYS DOING? I WAS LOOKING EVERYWHERE FOR YOU.
LET'S PRACTICE RIGHT AFTER WE GET BACK TO SCHOOL!
ONLY TAKAI AND THE OTHERS ARE THERE NOW, SO THEY PROBABLY AREN'T WORKING VERY HARD BY THEMSELVES!

SENSEI, WHY ARE YOU SO MOTIVATED ALL OF A SUDDEN?
MUSASHINOMORI'S COACH IS CLEARLY LOOKING DOWN ON ME AS A FEMALE TEACHER IN CHARGE OF THE SOCCER CLUB!
HAI.
WE HAVE TO WIN AND SHOW THEM UP! THAT'S NOT A PROBLEM, IS IT?
MM.
LET'S RUSH BACK TO SCHOOL FOR SPECIAL TRAINING!
DON'T TELL ANYONE ABOUT WHAT HAPPENED JUST NOW


WITH OUR CURRENT SKILL LEVEL, WE'LL BE FIGHTING A TOUGH BATTLE AGAINST MUSASHINOMORI'S SECOND STRING, CONCENTRATING MOSTLY ON DEFENSE.

SO, IF WE DON'T ACCURATELY GRASP THE FEW CHANCES TO ATTACK, WE WON'T HAVE A HOPE OF WINNING.
THE JOB OF THE STRIKERS WILL BE TO SHAKE OFF THEIR OPPONENTS, AND CREATE A SITUATION WHERE THEY'LL BE FREE ...

LEAVE THIS KID TO ME,
YOU JUST CONCEN-TRATE ON INSTRUC-TING THE OTHERS.
PON
YOU'VE ALWAYS LIKED SPOUTING THAT STUFF
ENOUGH, ENOUGH, REAL EXPERIENCE IS BETTER THAN STRATEGIES.
... AND THEN TO SHOOT ...

KURU MEANS HE TURNS.

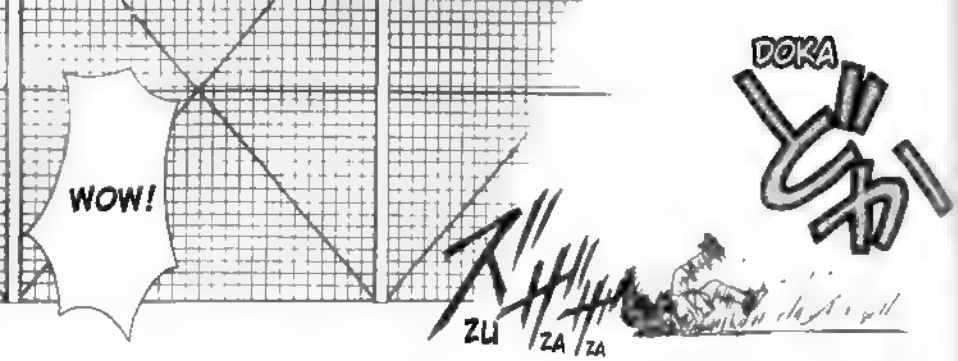
PEKO MEANS HE'S BOWING.

YOU'RE THE LAST-MINUTE CHOICE FOR FACING MUSASHI-NOMORI.
AN AVERAGE GOALKEEPER COULD NEVER HANDLE THOSE MUSASHINOMORI PLAYERS, WE NEED SOMEONE WITH ABOVE-AVERAGE PERCEPTION.

PLUS THE GOALKEEPER ONLY GETS A CHANCE TO SHOW OFF IN EXTREME SITUATIONS.
I'M AN AG-GRESSIVE KINDA GUY, NATURALLY UNSUITED FOR DE-FENSE.
AND I DON'T WANT TO BE THE CENTRE OF ATTENTION WHEN WE LOSE!

ED'S NOTE: SHIGE HAS THE RIGHT BUBBLE KAORI HAS THE LEFT

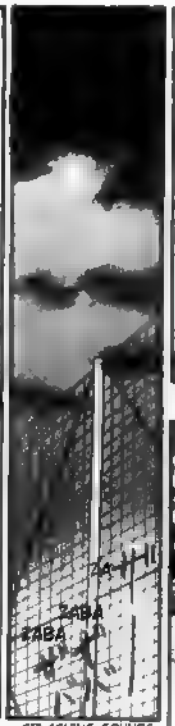
YOU'RE SMALL, NOT MADE FOR FIGHTING FOR CONTROL OF THE BALL, YOU DON'T HAVE ENOUGH STRENGTH FOR KICKING, AND YOUR TECHNIQUE IS UNDEVELOPED. EVEN KNOWING ALL THIS, DO YOU STILL WANT TO BE A STRIKER?
WHAT DO YOU KNOW?
I KNOW I'M NOT SKILLED ENOUGH, BUT . .
KAA
FOR YOUR OWN GOOD, YOU'D BETTER JUST GIVE UP NOW.


WOW!
DOKA
どか
ZU
ZA
ZA

WE SHOULD JUST CONTINUE WITH OUR PRAC-TICE.
I'VE ALREADY PUT HIM IN SHIGE'S HANDS.

MIZUNO, AREN'T YOU GOING TO STOP THEM? IF THIS CONTINUES I'LL SERIOUSLY INJURE HIS BODY.
WHEW
THAT'S WHAT I CALL VIOLENT!

I SURE AM TIRED!
IF I DON'T HURRY BACK FOR DINNER, I REALLY WILL DIE FROM EXHAUS-TION!
AH
!


ZABA
ZABA
SPLASHING SOUNDS

GA

DO
KA

ZAZA
!

S, SURE!
GREAT LEADER, AGAIN!

KUSO!

PO
N

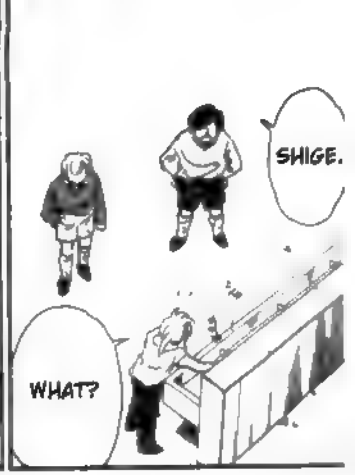
EVEN A PUPPY COULD DO IT, IF ALL IT TOOK WAS FETCHING THE BALL!
TON
TON
IF YOU'RE A HUMAN BEING, USE YOUR BRAIN AND COME UP WITH A PLAN!

TORTOISE!
CAN'T YOU USE YOUR LEGS? ARE THEY JUST FOR SHOW?
LAST SEVEN DAYS
DON'T BE PERPETUALLY TRAPPING THE BALL LIKE IT'S SOME TREASURE.
TEN DAYS BEFORE THE MATCH
HEY!
HEY

COULD IT BE THAT I REALLY CAN'T DO IT?
THOUGH I REALLY WANT TO SHOOT FOR THE GOAL, I CAN'T SEEM TO CONTROL THE BALL, OR EVADE THE DEFENSE.

GOUN IS THE RUMBLE OF THE WASHING MACHINE, BORO MEANS HE HAS NO ENERGY

WHAT?
IF HE COLLAPSES JUST FROM THIS KIND OF PRACTICE, THEN I'LL NATURALLY BE ABLE TO TAKE HIS PLACE.
KAZAMATSUR'S REALLY TRYING VERY HARD, ARE YOU TRYING TO GET HIM INJURED?
ARE YOU DELIBERATELY TRYING TO BULLY KAZAMATSURI BECAUSE HE GOT THE POSITION YOU WANTED?



THIS KIND OF TRAINING IS OBVIOUSLY NEEDED FOR SOMEONE WITHOUT ABILITY OR EXPERIENCE, WHO WANTS TO FACE OFF AGAINST MUSASHINOMORI!
ARE YOU GUYS STUPID?
OUR OPPONENT IS MUSASHINOMORI AFTER ALL!

EVEN IF WE WORK A HUNDRED TIMES HARDER THEN THEY DO, VICTORY WILL NOT BE GUARANTEED!
IN THIS MATCH WE ONLY HAVE A ONE PERCENT CHANCE OF WINNING,
WORRY ABOUT YOURSELF BEFORE WORRYING ABOUT SOMEONE ELSE!

TRY THINKING FROM THE OPPOSITE DIRECTION, YOU MIGHT BE ABLE TO FIND A NEW WAY OUT.
IF PUSHING DOESN'T WORK, WHY NOT TRY PULLING?
CHARGING FROM THE FRONT ISN'T THE ONLY WAY TO CROSS A WALL.

BAKA MEANS IDIOT.

THAT KID FINALLY DID IT.
ACTUALLY, ALL I HAD TO DO WAS TO USE MY OWN SMALL SIZE.
AND BELIEVE IN MYSELF ...
THERE'S STILL SOME TIME LEFT, RIGHT?
WE CAN'T LOSE TO HIM EITHER.
AMAZING.
LET'S CONTINUE TO FIGHT, TOO!
I CAN'T LOSE TO HIM EITHER.
IT'S THIS KIND OF PERSON THAT WILL KEEP ON IMPROVING.
THAT KID'S GOOD POINT IS THAT HE FEELS HE DOESN'T HAVE MUCH SKILL.
YES.
PRACTICE THAT MOVE YOU JUST DID TILL YOU'RE USED TO IT
STILL ONE MORE DAY TO THE MATCH.
ZA
N
グリ
GU
KURU
KURU MEANS "TURN."
AT FIRST I KEPT TRYING TO FIGHT AGAINST SHIGE...
NOW I GET IT...
KAZA.
THE POSITION OF STRIKER IS YOURS NOW,
I DID IT
THANK YOU, SHIGE!
GROSS, DON'T HUG ME!
GON
OUCH!
HEHE!

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↑IN A MEDITERRANEAN RESTAURANT. AT THE BACK IS SANGRIA. IN THE FRONT ARE SWEET CONFECTIONS.

FOOD AND CULTURE DIARY FROM THE 98 WORLD CUP SOCCER COMPETITION

I DON'T THINK I'M CAPABLE OF COMMENTING ON THE SOCCER MATCHES (MAYBE IN 100 YEARS' TIME) SO I WON'T TALK ABOUT THEM, SORRY. MANY PEOPLE HAVE ALREADY DISCUSSED JAPAN'S PERFORMANCE IN THE WORLD CUP, SO I DON'T NEED TO SAY ANYTHING ABOUT THAT HERE. I'M SIMPLY A MANGAKA*, SO IT'S ENOUGH FOR ME TO PUT MY THOUGHTS AND FEELINGS INTO MY WORKS. DRAWING THE SAKURAJOSHI VS. MUSASHINOMORI GAME, I IMAGINED THAT IT WAS THE JAPAN VS. ARGENTINA MATCH. JAPAN LOST THREE MATCHES IN THE WORLD CUP, BUT THE IMPORTANT THING IS WHAT TO DO AFTER LOSING. I'M SURE THAT BY 2002, THE JAPANESE TEAM WILL BE STRONGER.

*MANGAKA IS A MANGA ARTIST

SO I THOUGHT I'D WRITE A CULINARY DIARY INSTEAD. FOR THE FIRST HALF OF THE TRIP, I WAS IN BARCELONA, SPAIN, AND THE REST OF THE TIME I WAS IN PARIS. SPAIN IS A FOOD HEAVEN, TO THE POINT WHERE I DIDN'T MISS JAPANESE COOKING AT ALL. THERE IS A RICH ABUNDANCE OF SEAFOOD SINCE THE MEDITERRANEAN SEA IS NEARBY. SPANISH PAELLA IS FANTASTIC, AND THOUGH EVERYTHING WAS DELICIOUS, I ESPECIALLY LIKE SANGRIA (A DRINK. RED WINE WITH ORANGE JUICE, ICE CUBES, AND A SLICE OF ORANGE). EVERY RESTAURANT HAS ITS OWN BLEND. THERE ARE BARS EVERYWHERE, SELLING COFFEE DURING THE DAY, AND WINE AT NIGHT. THERE ARE MANY INGREDIENTS ARRANGED ON THE COUNTERS, AND EVEN IN THE MIDDLE OF THE NIGHT IT'S VERY NOISY, IT SEEMS THE SPANISH LIKE TO STAY UP LATE.

↑DINNER IN SOME RESTAURANT.

NEXT IS PARIS, WHICH HAS GREAT FOOD FROM MANY COUNTRIES, I TRIED SOME FOR THE FIRST TIME. THERE ARE ALSO MANY JAPANESE RAMEN SHOPS, AND PEOPLE FROM THE COUNTRYSIDE. BECAUSE OF THE WORLD CUP, THERE WERE FOREIGNERS CLUTCHING MAPS EVERYWHERE. I HEARD THAT THE FRENCH CAN ONLY SPEAK FRENCH EVEN WHEN THEY UNDERSTAND ENGLISH; IT'S NOT ENTIRELY TRUE, THOUGH.

THE SUPPORTERS ALL AROUND THE SOCCER STADIUM.

THE SIMILARITY BETWEEN PARIS AND BARCELONA IS THAT BOTH HAVE VERY DELICIOUS BREAD, WHICH IS EXPECTED, AFTER ALL, OF THE AREA WHICH IS THE BIRTHPLACE OF BREAD. WELL, I'LL STOP HERE FOR NOW.

A POSTCARD BOUGHT IN PARIS.

STAGE.12 THE LONG ROAD TOWARD THE SOCCER FIELD

WHISTLE!

VOLUME 2
CHAPTER 12

Presented by:

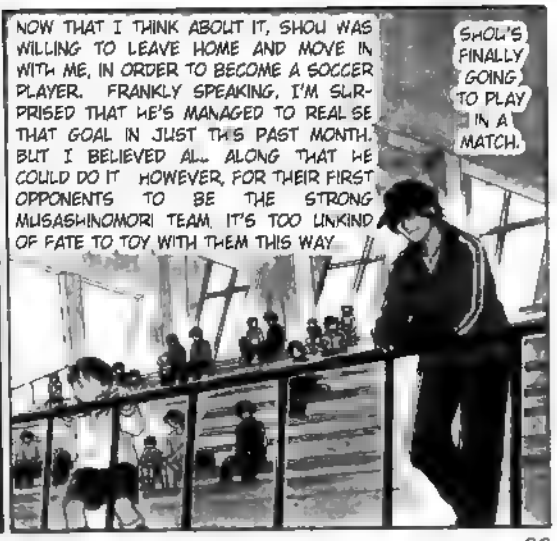
HoshiManga

STAGE.12

THE LONG ROAD TOWARD THE SOCCER FIELD

DESPITE SAYING THE SECOND STRINGERS WERE ENOUGH TO DEFEAT US, HE ENDED UP SENDING THE FIRST STRING PLAYERS ANYWAY...

ROUGH TRANSLATION OF YOROSHIKU = LET'S LEARN FROM ONE ANOTHER.


NOW THAT I THINK ABOUT IT, SHOU WAS WILLING TO LEAVE HOME AND MOVE IN WITH ME, IN ORDER TO BECOME A SOCCER PLAYER. FRANKLY SPEAKING, I'M SURPRISED THAT HE'S MANAGED TO REALISE THAT GOAL IN JUST THIS PAST MONTH. BUT I BELIEVED ALL ALONG THAT HE COULD DO IT. HOWEVER, FOR THEIR FIRST OPPONENTS TO BE THE STRONG MUSASHINOMORI TEAM. IT'S TOO UNKIND OF FATE TO TOY WITH THEM THIS WAY.
SHOU'S FINALLY GOING TO PLAY IN A MATCH.

SU
10

BASHII

!
SU
HU
DOKA
HE DIDN'T SEE THE BALL COMING, YET HE AVOIDED IT.
TON
TON
BI

A THIRD-CLASS SOCCER TEAM CAN'T POSSIBLY BE A FIT OPPONENT FOR US.
WHAT'S THERE TO LEARN?

I HOPE YOU GUYS PUT UP A DECENT FIGHT SO WE WON'T BE BORED
NIYA
ニヤ
NIYA
ニヤ

ONCE THE MATCH HAS BEGUN, YOU CAN JUDGE IF WE'RE FIT OPPONENTS FOR YOU.
HE
HE
MIKAMI!

BASHI

SHI-TSU-REI.
HA HA HA! DON'T MAKE ME LAUGH, YOU THINK YOU CAN BEAT US?
SHITSUREI = A LESS FORMAL WAY OF EXCUSING ONESELF
TO
TO
TO
TO

THERE WASN'T A REAL NEED FOR THIS GROUP OF YOU TO PLAY IN THIS MATCH, BUT...
MI-ZU-NO TA-TSU-YA ...

THAT GUY'S GONNA GET IT FOR SURE.
NO ONE CAN ESCAPE ONCE THEY'VE BEEN MARKED BY THAT MF MAMIYA.

WE NEED TO RUTHLESSLY FORCE THEM TO SEE THE TRUTH VIA THIS MATCH!
IN ORDER TO PROVE HOW FAR APART WE ARE IN STRENGTH,
THERE ARE SOME IN SAKURAJOSU WHO THINK THEY CAN BEAT US, MUSASHI-NOMORI.

BATAN = DOOR SLAM
WHAT'S BEEN GOING ON BETWEEN THEM?
THAT GUY JUST NOW IS PROBABLY THE ONE COACH WAS TALKING ABOUT.
BATAN
HE'S TOO EMOTIONAL... IT'S COMPLETELY UNLIKE COACH KIRIHARA WHO'S USUALLY SO CALM.
SHIN = SILENCE
SHI
N
CHANGING ROOM
SAKURAJOSU

BA!

NO NEED.
SU
JOSU
SINCE I RETALIATED.

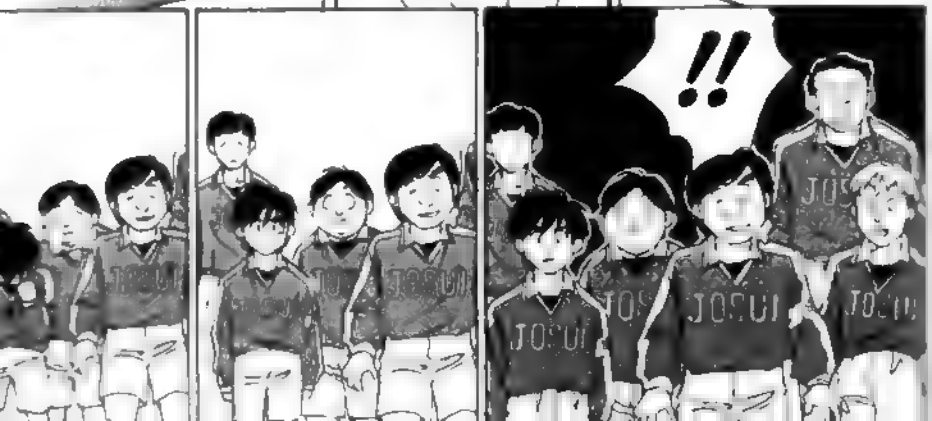
I APOLOGISE FOR THE RUDENESS OF MY PLAYERS.
KU

WE'LL MEET AGAIN ON THE FIELD.
PEKO
PEKO = BOWS

THAT GUY IS SCARY
ZOWA
HEH HEH HEH HEH HEH!
BU
BU
BU
ZOWA = SHUDDER, CHILLS
BU = WEIRD LAUGHTER

NO ONE HAD BETTER THINK OF STOPPING ME..
THAT GUY IS MY PREY! I'M GOING TO DESTROY HIM!

WHAT IF THE REFEREE HAD SEEN THAT.
SHEESH, DON'T PUSH IT, MAMIYA.
SORRY
DON'T GET IN MY WAY.



BU = CONCENTRATING

SOWA = FIDGETY

GYO = SHOCK

SHAKIN = SHARP GLINT

GOSHI = SCRUB

PACHIN = SNIP

DOKI DOKI = HEART THUMPING

PITA = PAUSE

DOKI DOKI
PITA
THIS WAY IS GOOD TOO, SINCE WE CAN'T WIN AGAINST THE FIRST STRING NO MATTER WHAT.
SO WE CAN SEE THIS AS A GOOD CHANCE TO PLAY IN A REAL MATCH WITHOUT PRESSURE.
HA—HA!
HA HA HA HA!
BIKUU
WAH, MONSTER!

I KINDA THOUGHT AT FIRST WE MIGHT WIN BY CHANCE, TOO.
ME, TOO.
AND IT JUST MADE ME NERVOUS AND SCARED! THOUGH WE'VE PRACTICED, JUST TWO WEEKS CAN'T HAVE MADE MUCH DIFFERENCE.
SO LET'S JUST BE PREPARED FOR DEFEAT.
WHEN I THOUGHT WE WOULD BE FACING THE SECOND STRING, I HAD SOME HOPE THAT WE MIGHT SOMEHOW WIN,
NUMBER ELEVEN TAKA'S HONEST CONFESSION!
TOSUI

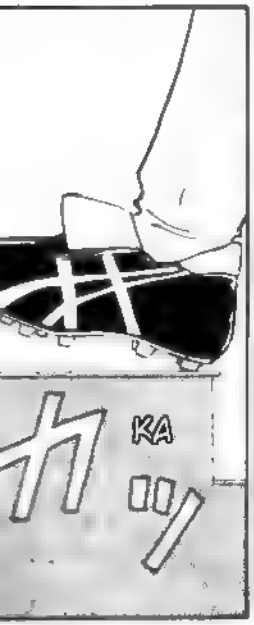
BIKUU'S SHOCK

BATAMU = VARIATION ON THE USUAL DOOR CLOSING NOISE

WHAT'S WITH SAKURA-JOSUI? ...
ARE THEY WARNING US?
THEY'RE GOING A-L-OUT...
WE MIGHT LOSE VERY BADLY
PER-HAPS ...
BUT...
BECAUSE WE WERE CRUSHED BY THE PRESSURE.
BE-CAUSE WE COULDN'T DO OUR BEST BEFORE.
WHY ... WHY ARE WE RUN-NING?

GORON = ROLLING OVER

KYU = PULL TIGHT



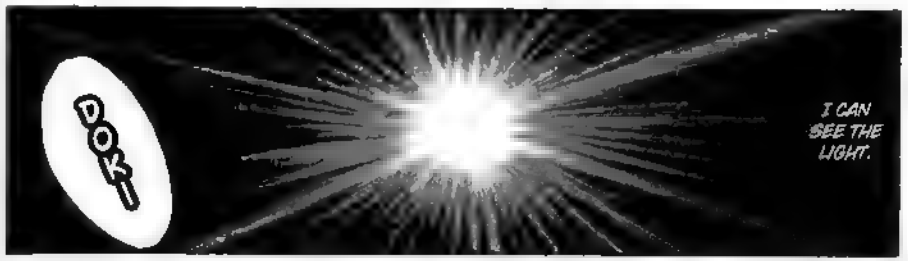
PERHAPS ... I CAN NEVER REACH IT!
ZOKU
ZUKO = SUDDEN CHI...
ZA

I WON'T BE ABLE TO MOVE AT ALL!
ONCE I STOP WALKING FORWARD ...
NO!
ZA

IF I GET MY COURAGE UP... AND TAKE THE FIRST STEP...
IF I GIVE IN TO FEAR, I'LL NEVER ACCOMPLISH ANYTHING... I WON'T BE ABLE TO ADVANCE A SINGLE STEP!

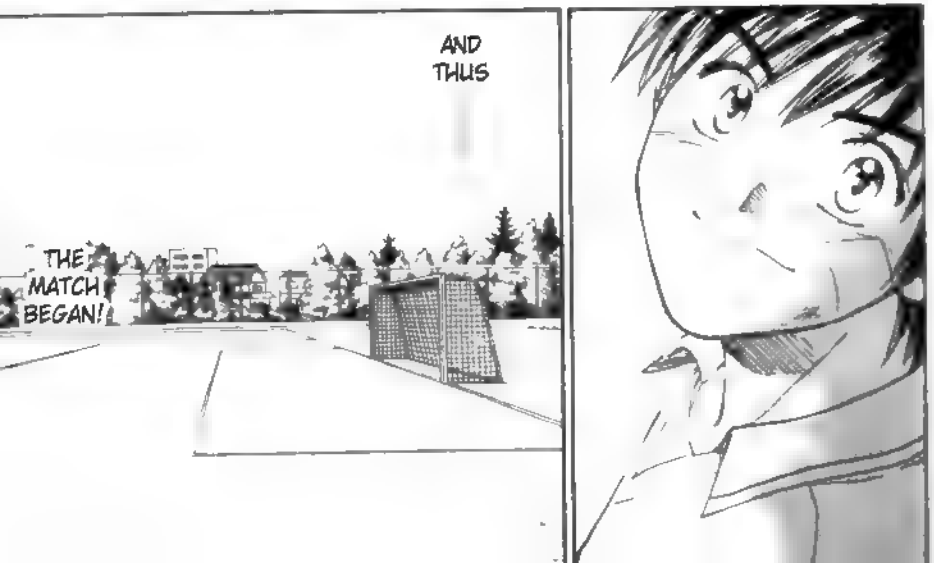
SO FAR AWAY...
ALL ALONG, I'VE BEEN TRYING MY BEST ON THIS PATH...
I WONDER ... WHEN WILL I FINALLY REACH THE END?
DOKI
DOKI
DOKI

OSU!


DOKI
I CAN SEE THE LIGHT.

DOKI
DOKI
DOKI
THAT'S WHERE THE EXIT IS.
DOKI
DOKI
DOKI
DOKI
DOKI
DOKI

EVERY-
THING CAN
BEGIN!


AND
THUS
THE
MATCH
BEGAN!

TA
TA
TA
TA
TA
ZU
TA
TA

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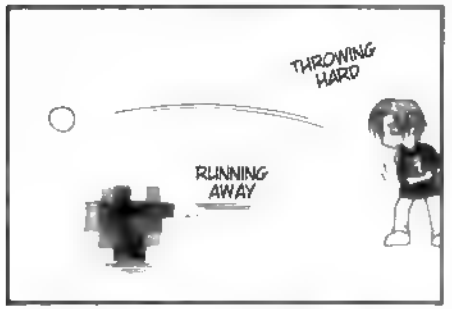
WHISTLE!

THEATRE!



WHAT KIND OF DOG IS IT? IT'LL BE REVEALED IN THE FUTURE.

STAGE.13

On your marks

WHISTLE!

VOLUME 2
CHAPTER 13

Presented by:
HoshiManga

. FLASHY GUY.
HEH. . COOL-LOOKING ONII-SAN*
DESTROY MIZUNO
THIS GUY IS A DEFENSE-TYPE MF.
*ONII-SAN = OLDER BROTHER. SHIGE USES IT TO REFER TO PEOPLE LIKE MIZUNO TOO.
YEAH, I NEVER GUESSED THAT WE'D BE ABLE TO SEE MUSASHINOMORI'S FIRST STRING IN ACTION IN JUST THE FIRST MATCH OF THE PRELIMINARIES
WHO CARES? WE'RE IN LUCK SINCE WE CAME TO CHECK OUT THEIR POWER.
I EXPECTED THAT ONLY THE SECOND STRING WOULD PLAY, I WONDER WHAT'S UP?
MUSASHINOMORI IS USING ITS BEST PLAYERS FROM THE FIRST STRING ...
FOR REAL?
THEY'RE BIG FOR 15 YEAR OLDS.
THAT'S THE MUSASHINOMORI TEAM.

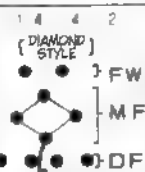
PASHI

BY FLIPPING A COIN, IT'S DECIDED THAT MUSASHINOMORI GAKUEN WILL KICK OFF.

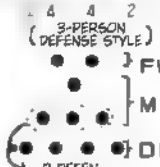
SO THE LITTLE GUY FROM THAT TIME IS A FW...
. . THIS TALL GUY, TATSUMI RYOUHEI
THE CRUX OF MUSASHINOMORI'S EXPLOSIVE POWER, FUJISHIRO SEIJI AND .

● WHAT FORMATION?

THE FIRST FOOTBALL FORMATION OF 1 DF AND 9 FW ORIGINATED IN THE MID 20TH CENTURY. BY THE 1960S, THE 4-4-2 FORMATION (4 DF, 4 MF, 2 FW) HAD COME INTO PRACTICE. IN THE 1980S, AS A REACTION TO THE 4-4-2 FORMATION, THE 3-5-2 FORMATION (3 DF, 5 MF, 2 FW) WAS CREATED. THESE TWO ARE THE MOST POPULAR RIGHT NOW.



4 DFS FORM A ROW TO UTILISE ZONE DEFENSE. WHEN ON THE OFFENSIVE, ONE MF TAKES UP A DEFENSIVE ROLE TO PRODUCE THE DIAMONDSHAPED MIDFIELD ARRANGEMENT. THE MOST POPULAR FORM RIGHT NOW IS A BOX SHAPE USING 2 DEFENSIVE MFS. BRAZIL IS REPRESENTATIVE OF THIS FORMATION.



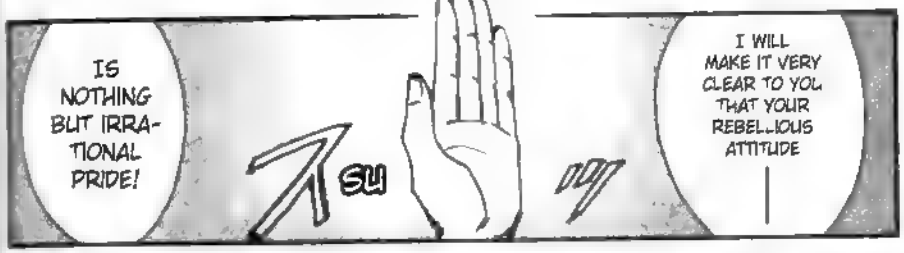
IN SITUATIONS WHERE DEFENSE IS IMPORTANT, 3 DEFENSIVE MFS ARE USED. IN THE FRANCE WORLD CUP, JAPAN MAY USE THIS AGAINST ARGENTINA. AGAINST A STRONG ENEMY LIKE MUSASHINO-MORI, SAKURAJOSUI ALSO USES THIS.

IN ORDER TO PRESSURE THE 4-4-2 FORMATION'S TWO STRONG FWS, 2 OUT OF THE 3 DFS MARK THEM INDIVIDUALLY (1-ON-1 GUARD), WITH THE LAST PLAYER BEING A REAR-GUARD (DEFENSE ONLY) OR ALL-PURPOSE PLAYER (MAY FREELY AID IN ATTACK). GERMANY IS REPRESENTATIVE OF THIS FORMATION.

SOME-THING'S WRONG ...
BUT WE CAN USE THIS CHANCE TO AD-VANCE ON THEM.
I DUNNO WHY THEY'RE PASSING TOWARDS THE BACK ...
IT'S LIKE... WE'RE BEING DELIBERATELY DRAWN INTO THEIR HALF...
"DRAWN IN"?

CRUSH THEM!
MUSASHI-NOMORI'S SPECIAL TACTICS ...
IT'S... IT'S STARTED!
EVERY-ONE, GET BACK!

YET... TATSUYA, YOU...
SINCE YOU'RE THE ONLY ONE ON THE TEAM WITH A DECENT LEVEL OF SKILL, IT'S THE ONLY STRATEGY YOU CAN USE RIGHT NOW. THE BALANCE BE-TWEEN STEADY SKILL AND BEGIN-NER TACTICS...
I PERSONALY TAUGHT YOU ALL OF THIS. YOU WERE MEANT TO HAVE USED THESE SKILLS AT MUSASHINOMORI GAKUEN.
MAKING A LONG-DISTANCE PASS FROM YOUR HALF TO THE OTHER TEAM'S AND THUS ATTACKING IN AN INSTANT.
A CONSTANT STUBBORN DEFENSE IN FRONT OF THE GOAL, ALONG WITH SEIZING ANY CHANCE TO ATTACK.


IS NOTHING BUT IRRA-TIONAL PRIDE!
I WILL MAKE IT VERY CLEAR TO YOU THAT YOUR REBELLIOUS ATTITUDE

DOKA = A RANDOM BALL KICKING NOISE, KURU = TO TURN.
DOKA
KURU
HUH?
ALL RIGHT! THEY PASSED THE BALL BACK, NOW'S OUR CHANCE!
!

BLACK TSUNAMI!
!!
DOKA
SUTA
THEY'RE LIVING UP TO THEIR REP OF BEING MERCILESS.
A COUNTER-ATTACK LIKE THIS IS ACTUALLY WHAT THE SIDE BEING ATTACKED SHOULD USE,
BUT MUSASHINOMORI USED THIS JUST TO MAKE THE GAP BETWEEN THE TEAMS' LEVELS REALLY OBVIOUS...
CH'!
YOU CAN'T PULL IT OFF UNLESS YOU'RE CONFIDENT THAT THE OPPONENT IS UNABLE TO SCORE
ALTHOUGH IT'S ALSO A GAMBLE TO LURE THE ENEMY INTO YOUR HALF IN THE FIRST PLACE...
DOKA
BACK, BACK!
CRAP!
THIS WAY, IT'S LIKE A MAJOR COUNTER-ATTACK... THEIR MOVEMENTS WILL BECOME TOO SLOW AS THEY NEED TO MOVE BACKWARDS AND DEFEND AT THE SAME TIME.
HIZA

BO —— ZEN
THEY GOT A ONE POINT LEAD RIGHT IN THE FIRST TWO MINUTES OF PLAY!
AMAZING!
GOAL!
BOZEN = STUNNED
SO THIS IS THE BLACK TSUNAMI...
ALTHOUGH I'VE HEARD OF THIS BEFORE, IT'S MY FIRST TIME SEEING IT FOR REAL.
TOO ... TOO FAST ...
WAA = CROWD NOISE
WAA
IT'S IN — THE SECOND GOAL
HERE, THIS IS THE PLACE.
JUST PLAY LIKE WE DO IN OUR USUAL PRACTICES.
IGNORE THEIR BIG TALK.
OK.
GAN = SHOCK
IT'S NO USE.
HA!
GA — N
HA, I'LL SHOW YOU JUST HOW GOOD I AM!
THIS IS TOO EASY, LET'S SEE WHO CAN SCORE THE MOST GOALS.
BASHI
LEFT !?
ZAN
FUJI-SHIRO!

IF WE DON'T ..
TURN THIS AROUND QUICKLY ...

CLENCH

THEY'RE JUST GOING TO KEEP ON SCORING ALL THE WAY.

AND WAIT FOR THE CHANCE WHEN THEY PASS THE BALL TO THE FRONT
BUT IN ORDER TO SCORE, WE NEED TO TRUST THEM.
I THINK THE BURDEN OF THE DEFENSE WILL BE VERY GREAT,

BUT, IF WE GO ON LIKE THIS, EVERYONE WILL LOSE THEIR CONFI-DENCE.
I KNOW...
GYU
*YU = CLENCH

I WILL PASS THE BALL TO YOU TWO AS SOON AS I CAN,
SO UNTIL THEN, YOU NEED TO WAIT IT OUT, OK?
AND WHEN WE GET THE CHANCE TO SCORE, WE NEED TO ATTACK WITH EVERYTHING WE'VE GOT.

THIS IS THE FIRST TIME I'VE HEARD THAT YOU'RE INTERESTED IN FOOT-BALL.

SOU-SAN, AL-THOUGH YOU OFTEN COME TO MY STALL ...
WE'RE A LITTLE LATE, BUT THEY SHOULD'VE ONLY JUST STARTED.

MUSASHI-NOMORI
2
FIRST HALF
0
SAKURA-JOSUI

THAT TALL MAN... HMM.. I'VE SEEN HIM SOME-WHERE BEFORE ..
HMM?

2 TO 0! IMPOS-SIBLE! THEY'VE ONLY BEEN PLAYING FOR 10 MINUTES!

WHO IS HE?
SINCE THEY'VE ALREADY DROPPED 2 POINTS, THEY MUST BE GETTING PANICKY BY NOW.

FOR ALL OUR SAKES...
WE CAN'T LET THEM SCORE AGAIN!
BEFORE OUR FIGHTING SPIRIT TOTALLY EVAPO-RATES...
WE NEED TO BREAK THROUGH THIS.

DISAPPEARED WITHOUT A TRACE
ISN'T THAT RIGHT, KAZAMA-TSURI?
HUH? WHERE'D HE GO?
11
WHEN THE BALL IS PASSED HERE WE WON'T BE ABLE TO ATTACK
BUT IF WE GO OVER TO DEFEND,
ORO ORO
IT'S NO USE, THEY'VE COM-PLETELY LOST IT.
SHEESH WHAT ARE YOU GUYS DOING? PULL YOUR-SELVES TOGETHER!

ORO ORO = CONFUCIÓN

ZA
PA
SHI
N
A CROSS? TWO WORDS, NOT A CROSS SHIMATTA...
FUJI-SHI-RO!
FUJITO
THE THIRD POINT ...
DOKA

DOKA
BA
KUSO, GET OUTTA HERE!
NGHHH...
BA
DO
ZA

SHOU!

MUKU = GETTING UP

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KATSURŌ SHIBUSAWA

PERSONAL DATA	
BIRTHDAY	1983 7.29
SIZE	183cm 65kg
BLOOD TYPE	A
FAVORITE FOOD(S)	SABAHII WITH MISU, MAME-DAIFUKU
DISLIKES	CRAWLING BUGS
INTERESTS AND ABILITIES	WHATCHING F1 RACES. COOKING

SEIJI FUJISHIRO

PERSONAL DATA	
BIRTHDAY	1985.1 1
SIZE	175cm 59kg
BLOOD TYPE	AB
FAVORITE FOOD(S)	HAMBURGER BISCUIT
DISLIKES	CARROT
INTERESTS AND ABILITIES	SHOPPING. SET-T NG UNBEATABLE ARCADE GAME HIGHSCORES (WITH N THE MUSASHINOMOR FOOBA.L C. JB)

Profile data of major characters
Musashinomori Club

DAISUKE NOTE

STAGE.14 I AM HERE

STAGE.14

FORMATION IS NOT AN ISSUE NOW!
EVERYONE WILL DEFEND...
AND EVERYONE WILL ATTACK!
I AM HERE

KAZAMATSURI
JOSUI
OSUI
OSUI
OH.
KAZAMA-TSURI..
DON'T SPACE OUT NOW! NEXT IS THE CORNER KICK! WE'RE STILL IN A PINCH SO YOU GOTTA LISTEN TO ME WHEN I SAY TO KEEP COMING UP!
HEY, HEY!
JOSUI
SO IF THEY GET A 3-0 LEAD, WE MIGHT AS WELL BE DEAD
THERE IS ONE BIG DIFFERENCE BETWEEN SOCCER AND BASEBALL
IN SOCCER, THERE ARE NO HOME RUNS

HAVE TO PROTECT THIS POINT, KAZA!
WE WILL DEFIANTLY
* WHEN THERE IS A TIE, THE PLAYERS ON DEFENSE PICK SOMEONE TO MARK.
OK, JACKIE YOU TAKE THAT
THERE IS ONLY ONE NEAR POST
*IT'S MAN MARK TIME. SO MARK SOMEONE AND DON'T LET HIM GET TO THE FRONT
JOSUI
JOSUI
JOSU'
WE ALSO HAVE TO BE CAREFUL OF HIS HEADING ABILITY
THE ONLY ONE WHO CAN MATCH THAT GUY'S HEIGHT IS YOU.
YOU MARK TATSUMI.
YE, YES!
HANAZAWA!
COME ON.

ED'S NOTE: JUICE MAYBE A CODE NAME FOR SOME DRUG LIKE SUBSTANCE LIKE VIAGRA SINCE THEY'RE ABOUT TO ENGAGE IN SOCCER ORGY

* EVEN INSIDE OF THE DEFENDERS, THE OPPONENTS ATTACK IF YOU ARE ONE OF THE ONES WHO DO THAT, YOU GET THE NAME OF SWEEPER.

IT REALLY IS. SAKURA JOSUI'S #9 PLAYER.
IT'S KAZAMATSURI.
OH.
KAZAMA-TSURI?
AT SAKURA JOSUI, YOU HAVE TO BE CHEEKY TO BECOME A REGULAR.
I THOUGHT HE QUIT
THAT GUY ISN'T RUNNING AWAY
NO, YOU'RE WRONG.
TO US, THAT'S LIKE BETRAYAL
IT WOULD BE HARD FOR HIM TO BECOME A REGULAR HERE
BUT I CAN'T BELIEVE HE WOULD GO TO AN EASIER PLACE JUST TO BECOME ONE
EH? NO, IT'S JUST
WHAT DO YOU MEAN WE'RE WRONG?
WHAT'S THAT YAMAKAWA?
.....

CALM DOWN. I HAVE TO CALM DOWN AND LOOK AROUND.
WATCHING THIS MATCH WILL GIVE US THE ANSWER.
WHETHER WE RAN AWAY OR NOT
AT THE FAR POST IS FUJISHIRO.
NEAR BY S TATSUMI.
THERE ARE A FEW ATTACK PATTERNS FROM THE MIDDLE.
THE CORNER KICKER IS MIKAMI.
WHO'S THE BALL GOING TO COME TO?
THIS PATTERN IS.

IT'S HIGH!
TATSUMI!
IT'S GOING TO
HANAZAWA, GO!!

FROM BEHIND?!
THE BALL CHANGED DIRECTIONS...
AND FUJISHIRO MOVED UP?!
CRAP! WE FELL FOR IT!
HEAD IT! THE LEFT CORNER OF THE GOAL IS OPEN!

WHA
HE BLOCKED IT?!
NO WAY!
IT'S A FLUKE!
A FLUKE!
I KNOW I KNOW THAT
TATSUMI DISTRACTED THE OTHER GUY, BUT HE JUMPED IN LIKE HE KNEW IT WAS COMING THERE!
MUSASHI FOOTBALL

I WON'T LOSE!
WE CAN'T ALLOW THEM TO SCORE!
IS IT TO TATSUMI?
FUJISHIRO?!
PLUS, IT'S FROM THE FAR SIDE?!

!
Hhh
AH, TOO BAD! IF IT HAD JUST BEEN ANOTHER 10 CM. INSIDE
IT WAS STOPPED BY THE POST!
THE BALL IS STILL IN PLAY DON'T LET YOUR GUARD DOWN.
OH, RIGHT
GEEZE.
THAT WAS CLOSE
TOSUI
THAT'S A GOOD MOVE. WHAT HAPPENED A LITTLE WHILE AGO WAS JUST LUCK
THAT'S RIGHT
HOW IS THAT? HE COULDN'T JUST KICK IT ANOTHER 10 CM. INSIDE?
THAT BOY BLOCKED THE COURSE

I FEEL WE
ISN'T THIS PRESSURE SCARY?
KAZAMATSURI-SAN IS AMAZING

I FEEL WE
THERE'S THIS UNEASINESS INSIDE OF MY HEART

LET'S GO
YEAH
GEEZE
KAZAMATSURI
THE FEEL THAT WE CAN'T DO IT
THESE THOUGHTS ARE SWIRLING AROUND INSIDE OF US

EH?
HE'S HITTING A CORNER SHOT
I GET IT.

THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE FOR ME
YEAH. THAT'S WHAT THEY'RE DOING
REACH FOR IT!
I HAVE TO STOP IT
IT'S GOING TO END UP AS EVERYONE EXPECTED!

TAKAI!
NICE FACE BLOCK!
JOSUU
GEH!

WE HAVE TO DEFEND IT WITH EVERYTHING WE HAVE!
いえ？
YOU IDIOT YOU THINK I'M GOING TO STAND AROUND WHILE YOU ACT COOL?
TAKAI-KUN!

A.L.
WE
THAT'S RIGHT
SHIT!
4
HAVE TO DEFEND!

IF WE BOTH JUMP AT THE SAME TIME, MY SHORT HEIGHT CAN'T MATCH HIM.
BUT IF I'M AT TO SEE WHERE THE BA... WILL ... AND...
THEN IF I JUMP...

I MAY BE SMALL BUT I CAN STILL CATCH THE BALL!
SUI
YOU!
SH--
JOSU

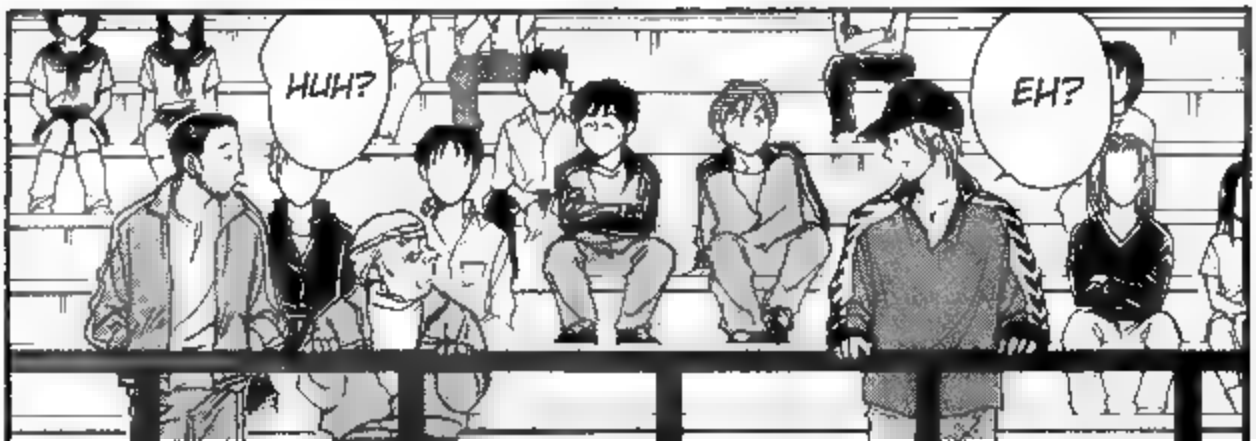
SHOU.
THAT SAKURA JOSUE'S #9.
WHAT IS HE.,
GOT IT!
!
JOSU
RUN!
WE DID IT!

I DIDN'T RUN AWAY FROM MUSASHI NO MORI!
MOVE UP!
I HAVE A MAL- F- BUT
IT GETS FUN..
FROM NOW ON!

I AM HERE!
GO!
JOSU!
Kaza-
matsuri!!

STAGE.15
EYE CONTACT

!!

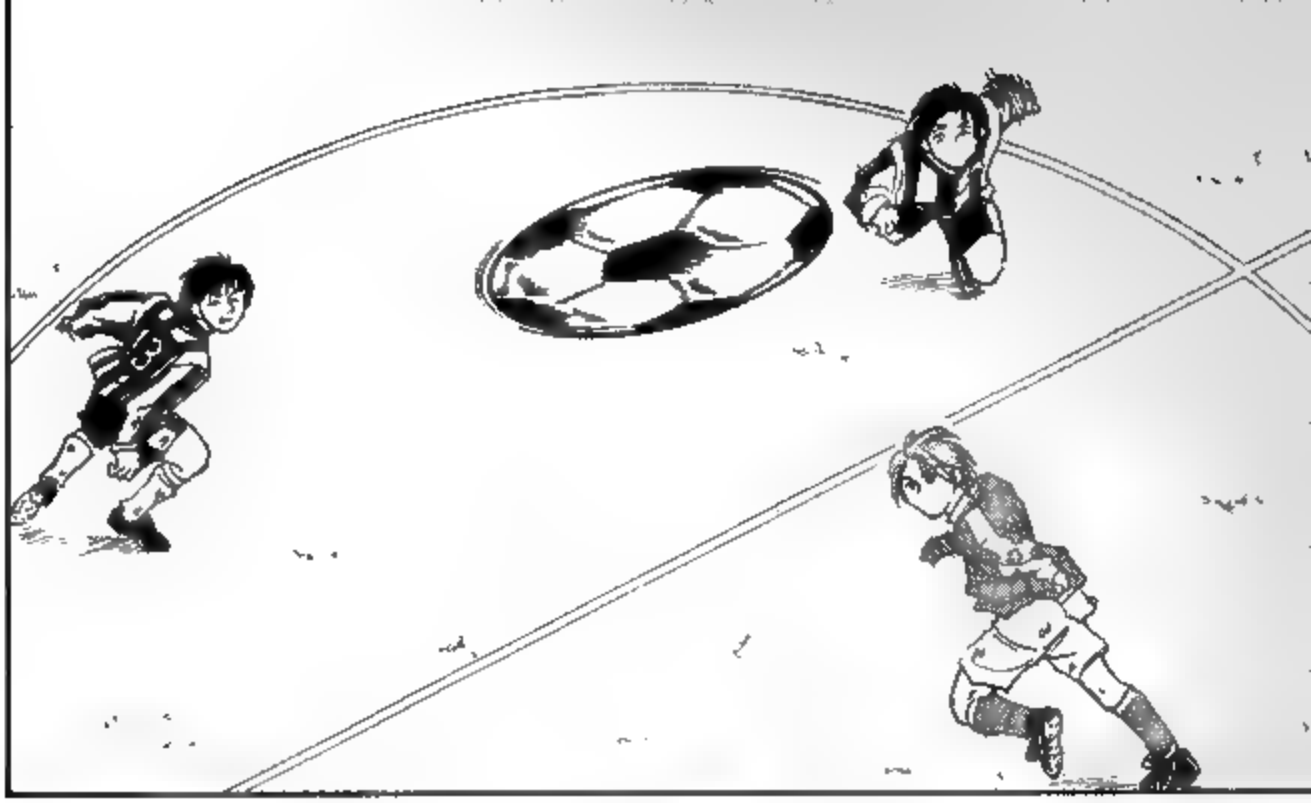


STAGE.15 EYE CONTACT

GO! GO!

IT'S COME BACK TIME!

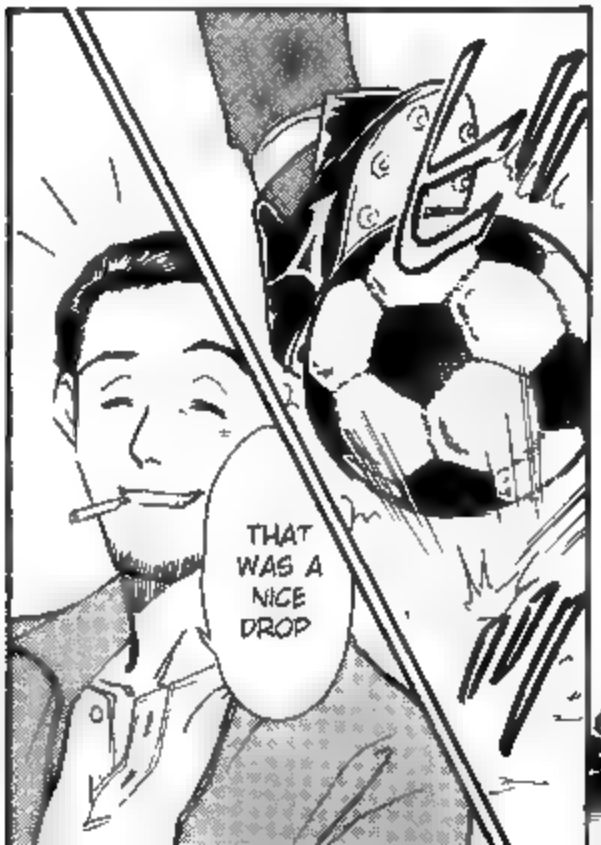
FORWARDS! MOVE YOUR ASSES——!!



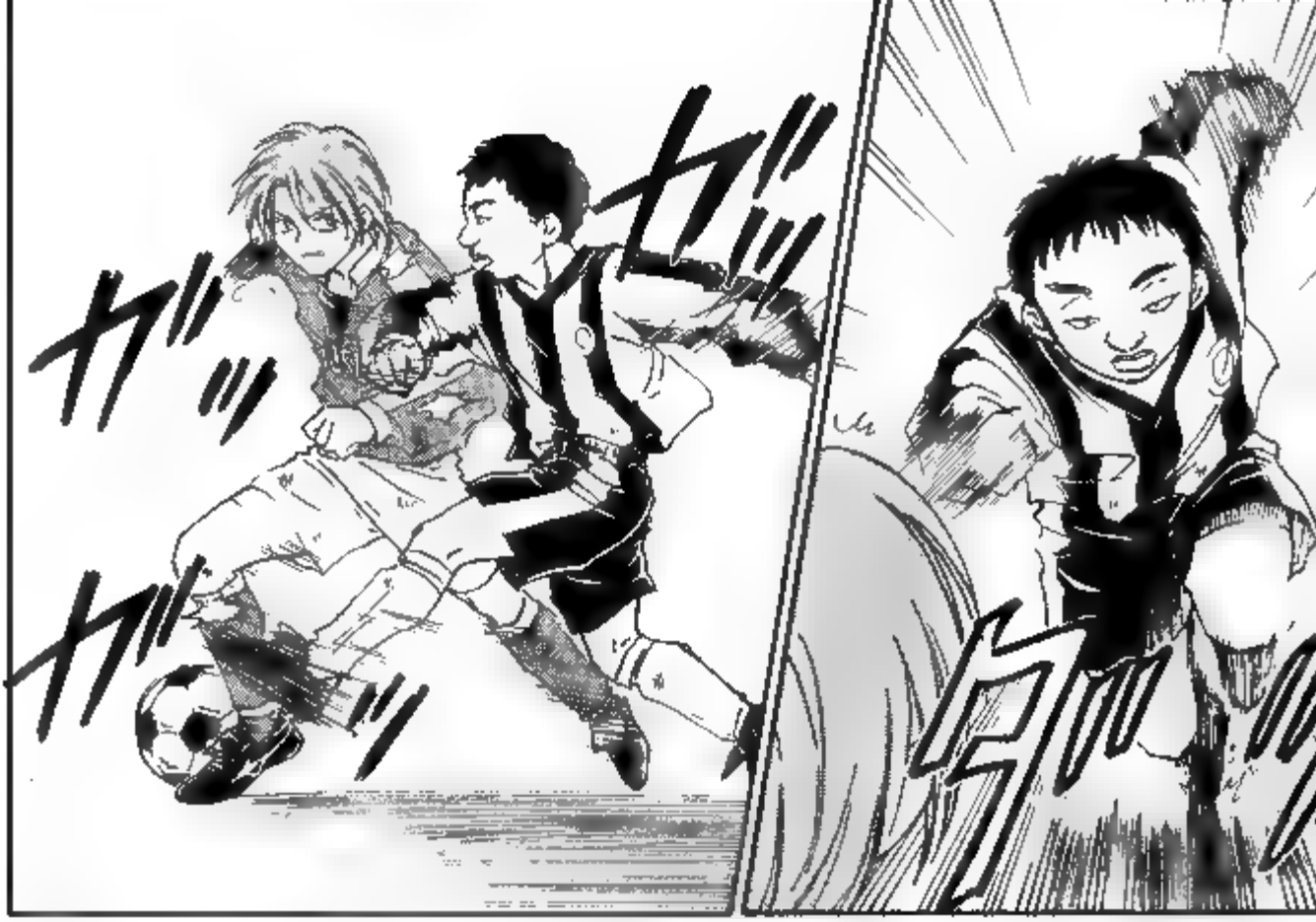
SHIGE PURPOSELY HIT A HIGH BALL TO BUY SOME TIME FOR EVERYONE TO GET IN PLACE.

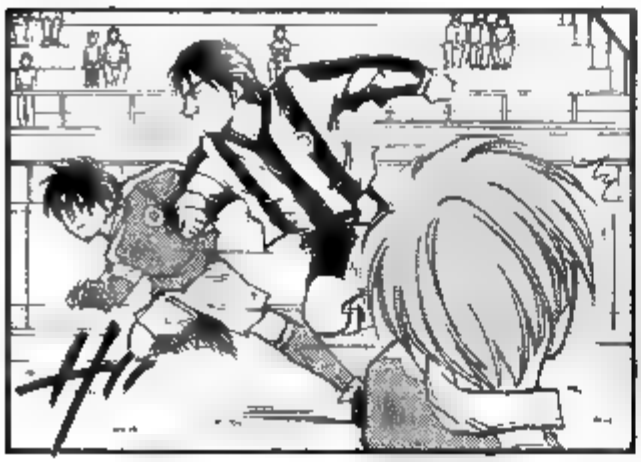
M ZUNO!!
GET IT!!

IT'S HARD TO STEADY IT WITH YOUR FEET
IT'S JUST LIKE USING A SPIKE IN VOLLEY-BALL...


THAT WAS A NICE DROP

THERE HE IS
WHERE'S KAZAMA-TSURI?
HE CATCHES THE BALL SO SMOOTHLY
TOSUI
HE STILL NEEDS A LITTLE TIME BEFORE HE CAN REACH FORWARD-MOST POSITION
THIS GUY
I REALLY WANTED TO BREAK YOUR LEG...





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THE DEFENCE'S RETURN SPEED IS...
INCREDIBLY FAST!
IF I KEEP ON GOING...
I WOULD BE IN THEIR OFFSIDE TRAP
MIZUNO-KUN!
THIS GUY IS MARKING ME
ISN'T HE A MIDFIELD DEFENCE?
JOSU
JOSU

COACH'S ORDER, TO TOTALLY...
SEAL YOU UP.

KIRIHARA ..!

MY GOAL IS TO TAKE CARE OF YOU!

YOUR OPPONENT IS ME!
STOP LOOKING AROUND!

KAZAMA -TSURI..
DAMN!
DEFENCES RETURNED WHILE I WAS BEING MARKED BY MAMIYA.
I CAN'T DO A STRAIGHT PASS

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TAKAI!
AH!
THE ROLE OF THE DEFENCE IS TO PUSH THEIR OPPONENT TO THE FIELD LINE, AND FORCE THEM TO GET THE BALL OUT OF BOUND.
DAMN IT! WHO DO I PASS TO?
NO ONE'S AROUND MORINAGA!
ACK!!
CATCH! MORI-NAGA!
HUH!? ME?

NORO!
WAH!
YOU FREAKS !!
TOSUI
I SENT THE BALL TO THE FRONT AND NOW YOU'RE PASSING IT BACK TO ME!?

IT'S YOUR FAULT FOR GOING AGAINST ME, WASTING YOUR TALENT.
SOCCER ISN'T PLAYED BY ONE PERSON. IT WOULDN'T WORK OUT EVEN IF THERE WERE ONE OVERLY SKILLED PLAYER WHILE THE REST WERE SCRAP.

I WANT YOU TO EXPERIENCE, NO MATTER HOW GOOD YOUR PASSES ARE, IF THERE'S NO ONE TO CATCH IT, IT WILL BE LONESOME.
NO MATTER HOW GOOD YOU PLAY, YOU'LL HAVE TO FACE THE BITTER TRUTH.
TATSU-YA!
OPEN YOUR EYES.
JOSUI

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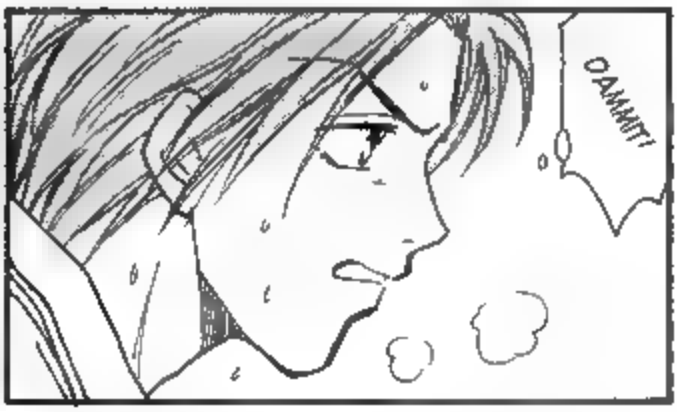

MIZUNO CAN'T SURPASS THEM WITH JUST HIMSELF
MUSASHI-NO-MORI TEAM'S ATTACKS ARE AMAZING
EVEN IF YOU HAD A CHANCE TO CATCH THE BALL, YOU CAN'T SCORE...

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SOU-SAN, YOU...
I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU GUYS THINK, BUT I'M RATHER OPTIMISTIC...
THE FIELD ...
IS WHERE THE WIND* BLOWS ...
I CONSIDER SOCCER AS A SPORT WHERE YOU HAVE TO ANALYZE YOUR OPPONENT.

*Kaze means wind, and Shou's name is "Kaza"Mateur thus he's relating to Shou

IT MUST BE PAINFUL...
FIGHTING BY HIMSELF...
MIZUNO-KUN IS OVER THERE .
BUT WHAT CAN I DO?
I WANT TO HELP HIM!
HUH?
JASU

IS THIS REALLY IT...?
I CAN'T PASS IT ANY-WHERE...
DAMN!
DAMN!
JOSUI
DAMN!
SOMEONE PLEASE!
WHAT CAN I DO...?
I DON'T WANT TO LOSE TO THAT BASTARD KIRIHARA.
!
!
JOSUI

JUST PASS IT TO AN EMPTY SPOT ON THE FIELD!
I'LL RUN TO THE EMPTY SPOT ON THE FIELD!

JOSUI
YOU THINK YOU CAN PASS IT TO SOMEONE?
THIS KIND OF PASS. .
NO ONE'S GOING TO BE ABLE TO CATCH IT!

WHA!?

IT'S EYE CONTACT.
HE DIDN'T EVEN SEE THE FOR-WARD'S ACTIONS. DID THEY PRACTICE THAT?
HE CAU-GHT IT!

TO PASS A BALL AND TO RECEIVE IT...
AS IF IT HAD ALREADY BEEN CONFIRMED, BOTH OF THEM WENT INTO ACTION.
AS SOON AS EYE CONTACT HAD BEEN MADE...
SOMETHING THAT OTHERS COULD NOT UNDERSTAND.
SOMETHING THAT ONLY THEIR BOND COULD MAKE...
THEIR LITTLE MIRACLE!

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STAGE.16 LOSING TO THE GOAL!

TO THE GOAL!!

SHOU
!!

GOOOOOOO

STAGE.16

LOSING TO THE WALL

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EVEN AGAINST A WELL-KNOWN GOALKEEPER, IT'S HARD TO BLOCK THE BALL FROM THAT COOPERATION AND RETURN TO THE FRONT

MIZ-UNO !?

STOP HIM !

FROM THE MOVEMENT OF MY BODY HE CAN CERTAINLY BLOCK THE SHOT

THE BALL WILL BE BLOCKED AT ALL ANGLES!

TOSU

FOUL !! NO3 !!
PHW EET
MIZUNO !
WARNING! YELLOW CARD!
SAKURA JOUSUI'S POSSES-SION!
AH
SEEMS LIKE THAT SHOVING AND KNOCKING DOWN GAVE US A PK
HOW EVIL!
MY BAD

DEFENSIVE WALL SHORT, LOFTED DRIVE CAN BE LOWER
DEFENSIVE WALL TALL, LOFTED DRIVE WILL HAVE TO STRETCH HIGHER TO GO IN
THE LEFT AND RIGHT GROUPS LEAVE A GAP FOR THE KEEPER TO SEE THE ATTACK AND RESPOND
YOU CAN AIM FOR THE LEFT OR RIGHT UPPER ANGLE TO GET THE BALL OVER THE WALL USING THE 'LOFTED DRIVE*' BUT
THE BALL WILL BE UP IN MID AIR FOR A LONG TIME SO CATCHING IT BECOMES EASIER
* PLEASE REFER TO TRANSLATOR'S NOTES
WITH FUJISHIRO FAST SHOOTING, HE KNOWS THEM WELL
CAPTAIN SHIBUSAWA CAN RECOGNIZE SHOTS SINCE THE GOALKEEPER SHOULD BE AGILE
THERES NO SHOT THAT WOULD POSSIBLY WORK!
SO WHAT SHOULD I DO?
YES! THERE IS STILL A WAY
DOESN'T THAT LEAVE SHOU WITH NO PLAN?
OUTSTA-NDING KICKING TECHNIQUE
AND EYE CONTACT IS NOT THE ONLY THING THIS GUY HAS
AIR Max
IF ONLY THERE WAS AN ATTACK SHIBUSAWA HAS NEVER SEEN BEFORE!

JOSUI
I CAN'T SEE MYSELF GETTING THE BALL IN AT ALL
AMA-ZING OPPR-ESSING STRE-NGTH ...
USUALLY I'D HAVE SOME IDEA OF WHICH DIRECTION TO SHOOT AT
BUT AGAINST MUSASHI NO MORI IT SEEMS LIKE ITS GOING TO BE IMPO-SSIBLE TO SCORE A GOAL

JOSU
SMILE
GASP
I SEE

...
PLEASE! SENIORS!
IT HAS TO GO IN! COUNTING ON YOU MIZUNO!
SHOW, TATSUBOW, WE'RE COUNTING ON YOU GUYS!
IT'S USELESS. WHAT CAN ONE PERSON DO
COULD IT BE THAT YOU THINK YOU CAN SCORE AGAINST SHIBUSAWA?

JOSU!
IT'LL GET BLOCKED
SEEMS LIKE EVERYONE'S RELYING ON ONE PERSON'S STRENGTH MAYBE
WHAT IF I CAN'T GET IT PAST SHIBUSAWA?
BUT

WHERE DO YOU WANT TO KICK IT!?

DO YOU THINK YOU CAN GET THROUGH OUR WALL?!

COULD IT BE

WHATS WITH THAT LOW ANGLE SHOT!?

I AM NOT AL-ONE

I HAVE MY TEAM-ATES HERE WITH ME!!

RIGHT NOW...

MADE IT!?

!
WHA
~!?
scratch
HAHA
...HA
HA

NAT-SUYA
HOW WAS THAT!
JOSUI
THAT'S OUR TATSUYA!
THAT'LL DO IT
I ALREADY HAD A FEELING...
AT THAT TIME KAZAMATSURI WAS MIXED AMONG THE WALL
THAT A SHOT WAS COMING FROM THERE
THEIR PLAN WAS NOT BAD...
PHEW
THAT WAS REALLY CLOSE! GOOD TO BELIEVE YOUR GUT FEELINGS.
THAT STARTLED ME! SO INTENSE!

IN THE BRAZIL VS. EAST GERMANY GAME DURING THE WEST RIGHTEOUS SPONSORSHIP OF THE WORLD CUP 74' COMPETITION SERIES, BRAZIL TIED THE CLASSIC GAME WITH A SHOT THAT BROKE THROUGH THE DEFENSIVE WALL. RIGHT NOW THE MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENT ALSO UNDERSTANDS THAT.

IT'S BEEN A LONG TIME SINCE I'VE FELT THIS KIND OF ATMOSPHERE...
IMAGINATIVE POWER IS REALLY GOOD AND THAT SUCESSFULLY BLOCKED SHOT WAS ALSO NOT BAD

THE STEEL DOOR HAS BEEN SLAMMED SHUT! REGARDLESS OF HOW MUCH HARD WORK THERE'S STILL NO GOAL! WHAT SHOULD SAKURA JOUSUI DO !?
JOSUI

2ON YOUR MARKS(完)

Daisuke Higuchi

ON YOUR MARKS

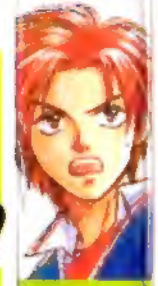
Number.2

哨聲響起 WHISTLE! 2

1ST SIDE

TONG LI COMIC

哨聲響起 WHISTLE! 2



Daisuke Higuchi 樋口大輔

東立

NT-75

TONG LI COMICS 哨聲響起 WHISTLE!

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